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VOLUME 23, NUMBER 24

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1999

FIFTY CENTS



Julie Coy, a worker at the State of Illinois emissions testing center in Pontoon Beach, prepares to test a car recently. The state's emissions testing program for cars was recently expanded to include several communities in the Metro East area where testing had not been done previously, including Collinsville, Edwardsville and Belleville.

Tim Stephenson photo

State emissions test area sees expansion

Several communities join Granite in program

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

Joseph Ryan said his first experience with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's enhanced vehicle emissions testing program was painless.

METRO EAST

"I was dreading it," said Ryan of this car very long and I've never had to do this before so I guess I was ready for anything."

That's because, until last fall, Ryan lived in Belleville. Belleville residents, and those in at least 15 other area ZIP codes, were added to the required testing list.

Test centers are now open in Belleville, Collinsville, Glen Carbon and Columbia. Previously, there were only test centers in Pontoon Beach, East St. Louis and Wood River.

Also new to the program are residents in Maryville, Caseyville, Troy, Edwardsville, Fairview Heights and Scott Air Force Base.

Shortly after his move, Ryan got a notice to have his car tested. He decided to bring his car in to the Collinsville emissions test site last week before he made a stop at a Collinsville bank.

"At least they have made it convenient," Ryan said, noting the added test sites.

To his relief, Ryan's car passed the test. While not everyone has been as fortunate, an anticipated failure rate of as much as 60

See EMISSIONS, Page 6A

Bad combination may cripple Venice city finances

Lower power plant reassessment, tax caps, negative multiplier could spell doom for small town

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A combination of a major reassessment of industrial property, tax caps and a negative

multiplier is "bad news" for the city of Venice.

Because of the potential dramatic decrease in tax revenues, Mayor Tyrone Echols predicted there will probably be some cutbacks in services in the coming year. Other city officials said the

cutbacks could cripple the town.

"It seems to be one crippling blow after another," Echols said. "We didn't intend to browbeat people, but still, city services the people expect have to be paid for, and (taxes are) the only way you can pay

for it."

The biggest hit Venice had to take is the reassessment of the AmerenUE generating plant. City Attorney George Nighossian said the plant's assessed valuation was recently reduced by the Madison County Board of

Review from about \$6 million to \$1 million.

Kerry Miller, chairman of that board, said company officials recently came to them saying the plant had been improperly assessed for the past 25 years.

He said because of state

statutes, power plants are appraised differently from other property and AmerenUE officials had been unaware of this until recently.

That action cuts the total

See VENICE, Page 5A

Granite City home lends hand

Pursell: We're slowly making good progress

By Mike Heil
Staff writer

Although the Good Samaritan House in Granite City has been open since October 1998, the shelter is far from completion.

GRANITE CITY

Thanks to monetary donations and support from the community and volunteer efforts, however, the home being pieced together like a giant jigsaw puzzle.

That's good news to Christy Pursell, the shelter's executive director.

"People, businesses and organizations have supported us," Pursell said. "We're slowly making progress, but

See HOUSE, Page 6A



Christy Pursell, left, director of Granite City's Good Samaritan House, and Maria King, a caseworker at the facility, help put away toys at the home. The downtown Granite City women's homeless shelter, which has been open for several months, has slowly been making progress in assisting those in the Granite City area and Madison County who need help.

Mike Heil photo

GCHS vocalists hit the top

Singers bring home 12 firsts from Triad High competition

By Mike Heil
Staff writer

After 15-year-old Amy Wilson had finished singing the classical song "Simple Gift," she said she knew she sang well, but didn't think she sang well enough to be awarded a perfect score.

"It was more astonished than anyone could imagine," Wilson said. "I couldn't believe it."

Wilson was the only soloist from Gail Mueller's swing

See SINGERS, Page 6A



Tim Stephenson photo

Granite City High School singers who recently took part in a competition at Triad High School included, from front row, from left, Nellie Beausejour, Amanda Boone, Kristen Lance, Amanda Taylor, Tiffany Karlos, Amy Wilson, Jodi Boone; middle row, Candis White, Tabitha Morris, Neale Ingram, William McElroy, James Hancock, Scott Whipple, Charles Duckworth, Kate Hollis, Jeremy Champion, Ricky Woodard; back row, Nicole Fisher, Stephen Lewis, Stephen Asbeck, Robert Henderson, Joshua Crowell, Todd Brady and Michael Stanley. The singers brought home 12 first-place ratings from the March 6 competition.

Granite City Journal

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Fleeing drunk driver's death ruled accidental

Madison County coroner's jury also rules on Granite City man's passing

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

GRANITE CITY

A Granite City man who died in an automobile accident while fleeing from a Venice police officer had a

blood-alcohol level more than four times the legal limit. The Feb. 8 death of John E. Davis, 38, of the 3800 block of Village Lane, was ruled an accident by a Madison County Coroner's Jury Wednesday.

Madison County Coroner Dallas Burke said lab tests showed Davis had a

blood-alcohol level of .34. The legal limit in Illinois is .08. At the time of death, he was under the influence of alcohol," Burke said. Police said Davis also had a revoked license at the time. Davis was pronounced dead at 4:44 p.m. Feb. 8, after he was taken to St. Elizabeth

Medical Center by ambulance.

The incident started when a Venice police officer returning to that city after going to a Granite City fast-food restaurant observed Davis driving in a reckless manner

See JURY, Page 5A

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News



Taking a break

Scott Cousins photo

Kaytra Kirkwood, 8, a second-grader at Venice Elementary School, nods off during arguments between the Venice School Board and angry parents at a meeting Thursday evening in the high school gym. Continuing controversy between the community, teachers and school administrators came to a head last week when Venice School Superintendent James Doughty was charged with withholding checks from teachers by Madison County State's Attorney Bill Haine.

GOP rips kitchen expansion

Churchich, Monday defend jail project; state rules cited

By Paul Mackle
Staff writer

A \$600,000 expansion of the Madison County Jail's kitchen is "excessive" and a waste of taxpayers' money, say two area Republican leaders.

"That seems like an excessive amount of money, and there's a long pattern of not taking care of the taxpayers of Madison County," said former Madison County Republican Party Chairman Ed Ragsdale of Alton.

He cited the recent increases in pensions for former County Board members and several extravagant trips taken by county officials over the years.

But County Administrator James Monday and Marty Siglock, the county's

director of buildings, said the expenditure is not exorbitant for construction of an industrial kitchen.

Siglock said the county didn't have the money to complete the kitchen in 1997, when the jail was expanded from a maximum capacity for inmates of 150 to 300. The jail houses an average of 230 inmates.

Between added prisoners and large food containers recently required by the Illinois Department of Corrections, Sheriff Bob Churchich said there hasn't been enough room for kitchen staffers to work.

The current kitchen is 1,200 square feet on the east side. It will become a storage area when the 2,500-square-foot addition is completed on the west side.

However, Bob Hulme, R-Edwardsville, who ran against Churchich in last year's election for sheriff, calls the spending

"I suspect it's probably not needed, but (county officials) want to get this done now. They're afraid tax caps are going to pass (in the April 13 election)..."

Bob Hulme
1998 GOP sheriff's candidate

unnecessary.

"I suspect it's probably not needed, but (county officials) want to get this done now. They're afraid tax caps are going to pass (in the April 13 election), and they might not have the money to spend on it," Hulme said.

Ragsdale, of Alton, added: "This is another reason for voting for tax caps. It's not a cure-all, but at least it's a start that puts a restraint on county officials."

But Churchich, D-Dorsey, said the kitchen is needed to conform to state regulations, which require that inmates

be fed three times daily.

He estimated that 675 meals are prepared each day and added that the cost of housing each inmate is about \$23 each day — about 25 percent of what it costs to house convicts in state penal institutions.

"It has nothing to do with Democrats or tax caps. It has to do with us being able to work," Churchich said.

"It just shows you how little Bob Hulme knows about the operation of the sheriff's department. Hulme has absolutely no knowledge. The county's much better off with him being a civilian."

Police Blotter

Venice Police

ASSAULT: A Venice woman was charged Saturday afternoon after allegedly hitting a man after he refused to give her a dollar.

Sheleesa Adkins, 32, of the 1200 block of Klein, Venice, was charged with one count of misdemeanor assault Saturday.

According to reports, at about 2:30 p.m., the victim came to the police department and said he had been standing at the intersection of Broadway and Klein waiting for a bus when Adkins came up to him and asked for money. He told her no and she allegedly began threatening him and cursing. She then allegedly hit him.

Adkins said she had asked to borrow money from the victim, who then started to argue with her.

DEATH: A St. Louis man died after being found unconscious in a home in the 400 block of Baucum Avenue Saturday afternoon.

Ricky D. Douglas, 40, of St. Louis, was pronounced dead at 4:44 p.m. Saturday at St.

Elizabeth Medical Center, Granite City. The cause of death has not been determined, and an autopsy was scheduled to be performed Monday, according to Madison County Coroner Dallas Burke.

However, police reports indicated that the death may have been drug-related and Burke said the victim apparently had a history of drug use.

According to reports, a woman called 911 to report a man, later identified as Douglas, unconscious in her home.

The woman told police that as she had left for work that day, Douglas had asked if he could stay in her home and rest for several hours. She told him yes, and told him to lock the door when he left.

When she returned home at about 3:45 p.m., she found Douglas unconscious on the living room floor.

Officers reported that the house was very hot because

the oven was turned on and the oven door open.

Douglas was taken by ambulance to SEMC, where he was pronounced dead a short time later.

Madison Police

TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS: A Granite City man is facing numerous charges after a traffic stop in Madison Friday. Mark Robert Trexler, 35, of the 4500 block of Redwood Lane, Granite City, was charged with driving on a suspended license, illegal transportation of alcohol, unlawful possession of drug equipment, driving with no insurance and having no rear registration plate light.

He also had an outstanding warrant for failure to appear on charges of writing bad checks in Fayette County and charges of illegal possession of cannabis are awaiting lab

results.

Trexler was arrested in the 1600 block of Market Street. Further information was unavailable.

Granite City Police

MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSE: Chad Denninger, 23, of 2810 Harvard, was charged Monday with offenses related to motor vehicles.

Denninger's Ford F-150 pickup truck was spotted by police eastbound on Niedringhaus Avenue heading toward Delmar. The vehicle was swerving before being pulled over at 20th and State Streets about 11:09 a.m.

DRIVING WITH A REVOKED LICENSE: Ollio Valencia, 71, of the 1700 block of Bremen, was arrested early Saturday morning for allegedly driving under a revoked license.

Valencia was stopped by

Granite City police about 12:55 a.m. on Nameoki Road. He was later released without posting bond.

Madison County Sheriff's Department

DRUG ARREST: Kristopher A. Dixon, 20, of Madison, was charged with the alleged manufacturing or delivery of cannabis of more than 10 grams but less than 30 grams after an incident at 7:41 p.m. March 12 in the 300 block of Allen Street, Madison.

Dixon also was charged with being a pedestrian on the roadway.

BURGLARY: Kathryn D. Kells, 26, was charged with burglary after an incident at 3:35 a.m. March 13 at the Waffle House Restaurant, 3244 W. Chain of Rocks Road, Granite City.

WARRANT ARREST: Benjamin R. Conway, 21, was taken into custody on warrants issued by the Granite City Police Department after a traffic stop at 12:26 a.m. March 14 at Harrison Street and Illinois 203 in Madison.

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Madison crackdown paying off

One-third of absentee landlords now in compliance, officials say

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

An effort to force absentee landlords in the city of Madison into complying with permit and inspection ordinances is starting to pay off, according to city officials.

MADISON more than one-third of the landlords recently cited by city

inspectors have come in and taken care of their problems, said Mayor John Hamm. The rest will have to go before the city's administrative hearing officer on March 27.

"We've had right at 100 people come in and come into compliance," Hamm said. "They either paid for a license that was due or scheduled inspections."

Hamm said he feels the program has been "very

successful" in bringing landlords into compliance. Problems with absentee landlords are an ongoing concern in Madison. Of the approximately 2,400 residential properties in the city, about 1,000 are rentals, many with a high turnover rate.

The city has been very aggressive in demolishing derelict buildings and recently passed an ordinance strengthening requirements for

boarding up vacant buildings. Those not in compliance face fines of \$50 to \$750. The cases will be handled through the city's administrative hearing system.

There's always that percentage that don't care and won't show up," Hamm said. "I'm sure the hearing officer will handle them appropriately. We'll see what comes out of the hearing Saturday."



Cleanup time

The Jobs for Illinois Graduates community service program recently took part in a cleanup in the Granite City area. Carla Finkes, the teacher and leader of the group, requires 12 hours of community service, far above the two hours the program actually requires.

In Brief

Church revival coming soon

New Shining Light Missionary Baptist Church in Venice will

be holding a revival March 30-April 1. The speaker will be evangelist Shelonda Leneice Williams, daughter of pastor John Henry Williams. Services begin at 7 p.m. each night.

and visual depiction of Christ's last days. The church is located at the intersection of Illinois 111 and Pontoon Road.

are after normal hours of operation. For information, call 877-3059.

Pool reservations now being taken

The Granite City Park District is now taking reservations for private pool parties at the Wilson Park Pool. Park District residents may reserve the pool by coming to the Wilson Park office. The cost is \$100 for 1½ hours and \$130 for 2 hours. Rental times

Park District offers dance lessons

The Granite City Park District is offering imperial swing dance lessons beginning April 12. Classes will be taught by Linda McKeehan, who has served as president of the Midwest U.S. Imperial Dance Club for the past five years. The class is open to anyone

15 or older and people may enroll at the Wilson Park office. The cost is \$20 for residents and \$33 for non-residents.

Benefit dance scheduled April 3

A chicken and beer dance will be held for Michael Woodruff of Granite City. The fund-raising event will take place at from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. April 3 at the Eagles Home, 2558 Madison Ave. in Granite City. The band Sneakers will

perform. In addition, raffles for cash and handmade knives will be part of the festivities. Door prizes will also be given away. For ticket information, call Allie Grayell Slusher at 451-2074.

Money from ticket sales will go toward Woodruff's medical expenses. Woodruff was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma in August. He recently underwent tests and treatments for the disease. Woodruff has two children, Mickey, 6, and Skye, 3.

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Pontoon Baptist schedules musicals

Pontoon Baptist Church will perform the musical drama "He Shall Arise" at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 28. The performance incorporates scripture, music,

Collinsville bicycle hit-and-run death ruled accidental

By Curtiss A. Hartley
Staff writer

It took a Madison County coroner's jury fewer than five

minutes to rule the death of a bicyclist in a hit-and-run incident as accidental. Collinsville police said Robert D. Finck, 67, of Collinsville was riding his bike in the 800 block of South Morrison at 12:15 a.m. Feb. 13, when he was struck by an

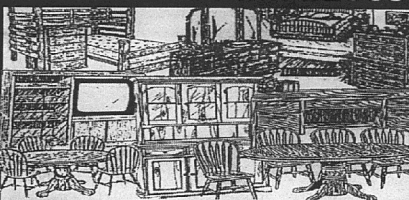
oncoming car. The driver of the car left the scene. Finck was taken to Anderson Hospital in Maryville, where he was pronounced dead at 1:12 a.m. Madison County Coroner Dallas Burke said Finck died of massive head injuries.

A report Burke read said that Finck was riding "with traffic" and was struck on his right side. The driver of the car, Samuel Agnew, 33, of Glen Carbon, was identified through a license plate, which fell from his car in the collision and was recovered at the scene. Agnew was stopped by a Glen Carbon police officer within 10 minutes of an ISPERN broadcast transmitting information about his car. Agnew later was charged with driving under the influence, a misdemeanor offense. He was released after posting \$100 cash bond.

The victim's granddaughter, Lynn Edwards, said Finck may have been riding home from Boomerang's, a bar near the scene, at the time of the incident. Finck lived a short distance away. Burke read toxicology reports showing Finck had a blood alcohol level of .14 at the time of his death. That is nearly twice the state's legal limit for intoxication of .08. Ironically, Finck had been involved in a similar incident in January. Finck had been by a car just three weeks prior to the fatal incident, Collinsville police said.

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Cataracts and Cataract Surgery

What you need to know about cataracts and the latest advances in cataract surgery

by Wen Y. Chen, MD, PhD
Illinois Eye Specialists
Almost everyone will develop cataracts if they live long enough. In fact, over one million Americans will have cataract surgery this year. A cataract occurs when the natural lens of the eye becomes cloudy. They can be related to aging, sun exposure, use of some medications, disease processes, trauma to the eye, heredity, and tobacco use.

Patients who have cataracts often complain about blurred or double vision, ghost images, glare, trouble seeing at night, and difficulty with reading or doing close work, especially in dim light. Many patients are amazed to find that normal daily activities such as driving, reading, and watching television are much easier following cataract surgery.

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Obituaries

Doyle Adamson

DOYLE C. ADAMSON, 68, of Granite City, died Monday, March 22, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Mr. Adamson was born April 25, 1930, in Granite City. He had worked for Brown Shoe Co. as an order clerk and was a member of the Protestant faith.

Survivors include his stepdaughters, Mary Brackett and Wanda Bell, both of Granite City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Velma "Berry" Adamson.

No services were held. A private burial service was held Tuesday, March 23, at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Davis Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Troy Glasgow

TROY T. GLASGOW, 78, of Granite City, died Saturday, March 20, 1999, at Christian Hospital Northeast in north St. Louis County.

Mr. Glasgow was born March 13, 1921, in Dover, Tenn. He was self-employed in retail selling of meat and eggs and was of the Protestant faith.

Survivors include his wife, Darlene (Garcia) Glasgow; one son, Stephen Glasgow of Maryville; one daughter, Patricia Glasgow of Eldon, Mo.; three sisters, Ona Crutcher and Cordie Lancaster, both of Dover, Tenn.; and Martha Thorn of Paris, Tenn.; and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Horace and Pauline (Sartin) Glasgow; four brothers, Wesley, Lamo, Bryon and Reese Glasgow; and one daughter, Myra Glasgow.

Services were held Tuesday, March 23, at Thomas Memorial Mortuary in Granite City, with the Rev. Greg Barnett officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Genevieve McComis

GENEVIEWE (MC DONALD) MCCOMIS, 91, of Granite City, died March 20, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Mrs. McComis was born May 5, 1901, in Madison. She had worked

at Illinois Central and Gulf Railroad in Venice as a billing clerk during World War II and was a member of St. John United Church of Christ, Hilltoppers and Afternoon Church Guild, Madison County Home Extension and was a former city clerk of Madison.

Survivors include her sister-in-law, Ruth McDonald; and seven nieces, Shirley Horner of Houston, Kathleen Mikolajak of Kirkwood, Mo., Elizabeth Pence of Bourbonnais, Rosemary Salerno and Patricia Evans, both of St. Louis, Judy Perry of Hopkinsville, Ky., and Elaine Hutchinson of Dubois.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John McComis; and her parents, Andrew and Daisy (Dupper) McDonald.

Services were held Tuesday, March 23, at Irwin Chapel Hill Memorial Estates in Edwardsville.

Survivors include his wife, Helen (Fickert) Ruehrup; one daughter, Judy Oetzer of Sullivan; one son, Jim Ruehrup of Edwardsville; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Henry Ruehrup; his mother, Friederick Rohleder; and several brothers and sisters.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, at Saksa Mater Funeral Home in Edwardsville.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 25, at Saksa Mater Funeral Home, with the Rev. Jim Goode officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery in Slatt.

Memorials may be made to Eden United Church of Christ or the United Church of Edwardsville.

Ernest Ryan

ERNEST W. "BILL" RYAN, 69, of Bunker Hill, died Sunday, March 21, in Granite City.

Mr. Ryan was born March 13, 1930, in Bunker Hill. He was retired from Granite City Steel as a steel worker and was a member of the Cottage Hill VFW post. Mr. Ryan was a U.S. Navy veteran.

Survivors include his sons, Todd Ryan of Granite City and Larry Ryan of Minnesota; and one sister, Emma DeSpain of Bunker Hill.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Cordelia (Ashbrook) Ryan; and one brother, Jack Ryan.

Services were held Tuesday, March 23, at Landers Funeral Home in Bunker Hill, with the Rev. Thomas Ashbury officiating. Burial was in Bunker Hill City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Madison County.

Georgia Teller

GEORGINA S. (NICOL) TELLER, 81, of Granite City, died Friday, March 19, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Mrs. Teller was born April 15, 1917, in Glasgow, Scotland. She was a homemaker and a member of Women of the Moose, Lodge 272, Eagles Aerie 1126 Auxiliary and Quaid-City Navy Mothers.

Survivors include her daughters,

Joann Kubik, Georgia Richards and Linda Knott, all of Granite City; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Teller; her parents, John and Mary (McKeenan) Nicol; one daughter, Barbara Valencic; four sons, Arthur Teller, William Teller, John Teller, and Robert Taylor; and three sisters, Catherine Smith, Barbara Wood and Marcy Nonn.

Services were held Monday, March 22, at Mercer Mortuary in Granite City, with the Rev. Dr. Lewis Trotter officiating. Burial was in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Madison County.

Cheryl Webb

CHERYL E. WEBB, 49, of Annapolis, Mo., formerly of Granite City, died Friday, March 3, 1999, in Granite City.

Ms. Webb was born June 6, 1949, in Granite City. She was a self-employed firewood distributor.

Survivors include her mother, Christine (Link) Webb of Granite City; two daughters, Rebecca Dedear of Alton; one half-sister, Nichol Webb of Wood River; and

one granddaughter, Rebekah Dedear of Alton.

She was preceded in death by her father, William Webb.

No services were held. The remains were cremated.

Memorials may be made to the Madison County Humane Society, Irwin Chapel handled the arrangements.

Rev. M.W. Wilson

REV. M.W. WILSON, 77, died Sunday, March 7, 1999, in Troy, Mo.

Rev. Wilson was born Sept. 26, 1921, in Mississippi. He became an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God in and ministered for more than 55 years. Rev. Wilson pastored Tri-City Park Tabernacle (now Tri-

City Assembly of God) twice and also pastored Glenview Chapel Assembly of God from 1961 until 1983.

Survivors include two sisters and two brothers. He was preceded in death by his sister, Gladys Sumral.

There was no visitation and no funeral service.

Baus Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

Pruning Tips

by the experts at

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Where Beautiful Things Begin

Pruning is a ritual

that some people love and others consider a troublesome task.

The trimming and shaping of trees, hedges and shrubs, though, is something we all need to face, like it or not. And, since some of your pruning chores can be tackled this time of year, we'll offer some advice.

From the smallest twig to the largest trunk, using the right tool makes everything easier and safer.

And there are a variety of pruning tools available at Frank's, each designed for a specific job. Here are the most common.

Pruning Shears

Anvil pruning shears have one straight cutting blade that touches a flat-faced anvil when closed.

They're designed for smaller pruning jobs. Bypass pruning shears, with either curved or straight blades, work much like scissors. They're used mainly for branches three-quarters of an inch or less.

Loppers

These are large, long-handled versions of the above-mentioned tools. Because of the extra leverage provided by their handles, they're used for larger jobs, up to one-and-a-half inches in diameter.

Pruning Saws

They look much like a carpenter's hand saw with a curved blade and large triangular teeth. They can be used for a wide range of jobs, from one-and-one-half-inch diameter branches all the way up to big 10-inch thick trunks.

Bow Saws

The D-shaped bow saw is a bigger, more powerful version of the pruning saw. It has a metal frame and a thick blade with various sized teeth. A bow saw can be used to cut branches 10 inches to 12 inches in diameter. It's also great for cutting firewood down to fireplace size.

Pole Pruners

Add a long telescoping pole to a pruning saw or shears and you have a pole pruner. You can reach some lofty limbs without the hazards of climbing on

a ladder leaning against a tree.

There are many reasons for pruning as there are tools, or so it seems. One is to keep trees and shrubs neat and tidy. It also keeps them manageable and stimulates new growth.

Another reason to prune is to get rid of dead or diseased limbs. Safety is still another. Low-hanging or otherwise out-of-place branches can be extremely hazardous, especially when they encroach on sidewalks or porches.

Whenever you prune a living plant, you are wounding it. We don't mean to sound cruel, but that's the case. However, plants have defenses that rush to the wound, much like our own bodies do.

Only plants don't re-grow tissue over the area. Instead, new tissue seals off and surrounds the area as the plant ages.

Pruning plants at the wrong time can bring harm. Since the list of plants and pruning times is lengthy, we suggest you direct any questions as to your particular situation to one of the experts at your nearest Frank's. He or she can give you answers.

Dead plant tissue, on the other hand, can safely be pruned away any time. This also applies to limbs that have been damaged as a result of a storm, since they present a hazard if left alone.

Watch Sunday's Journal for more tips from the experts at Frank's!

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County nursing home money paying legal bills

By Paul Mackie
Staff writer

Money that was reserved for operating expenses of a tax-supported care home is now being used to pay legal bills, officials say.

With the legal process of closing the Madison County Nursing Home, 2121 Troy Road, not expected to be completed until 2000, Assistant State's Attorney John Gilbert is likely to accrue a hefty amount of legal fees from the county.

Gilbert was paid \$1,184 for February, which was his first month of service. Rather than being paid out of the county Troy Fund, Gilbert is being paid out of the dwindling Homes Fund.

"Legal services are an operating expense," said County Administrator James

Monday. "It only comes out of the Troy Fund (if fees) are related to a lawsuit in which we're being sued."

But Debbie Groeteka of Collinsville, a chair of the County Homes Action Committee, said she doesn't think the county should pay the legal fees out of the operational fund.

"They're challenging a decision by the state," Groeteka said. "It's not a normal legal operating expense, such as a problem over residents' rights or a vendor's billing. They've got a line for all occasions."

Groeteka said she can't understand the County Board's reasoning behind some of its decisions. She said county officials laughed off the request by former Treasurer Wes Tucker for an independent audit in July.

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Jury rules drunk driver's death accidental

Continued from Page 1A
on Madison Avenue.

The officer attempted to stop Davis, who drove away at a "very high" rate of speed, but lost sight of Davis' car and discontinued the chase. The chase lasted only about 45 seconds.

Davis eventually struck a parked post office vehicle in the 2700 block of Washington Avenue. The car spun out of control and struck a tree.

Granite City Police Detective George McLaren said the force of the impact was so great that it disconnected to car's engine from the drive train and the engine left the vehicle.

In another Granite City case, the death of Steven D. Pigg, 38, with a listed address of 1313 20th Street, was also ruled accidental.

Pigg, an alcoholic who had been ejected from a halfway house for drinking in his room, died of methanol poisoning after drinking an alcohol-based gelled fuel.

Send us your stories, events

Weddings, engagements, anniversaries and other items for the family or society pages may be directed to the *Journal* at 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, Ill., 62040. Photos of a reprintable quality also will be considered for publication.

Venice city finances could be jeopardized

Continued from Page 1A

assessed value of property in Venice by one-third, with a corresponding drop in tax revenue.

Echols said it would probably mean a minimum loss of \$50,000 per year and could go much higher.

"I think the people really need to be apprised of this so they'll know what they're heading toward," Echols said.

Echols said in the past he has been called "stingy," but that it was necessary and will continue to be necessary.

"These poor people (the city employees) haven't had

"I've always thought small-town America was slowly getting into trouble. It's getting to the point where the poor taxpayer just can't afford to pay."

Tyrone Echols
Venice mayor

raises in years," he said as an example. "If they had, we would have been out of business long ago."

He said attrition may take care of some of the budget cuts.

"People were moaning (at the City Council meeting) last week about a janitor—I knew what I was doing when I didn't replace that janitor," Echols said. "I thought it was better than going and giving a guy a job, building up his hopes and go out and get in debt, then I'd have to lay him off."

The second blow to the city is the high probability that there will be a negative tax multiplier attached to upcoming tax bills.

An employee at the Madison County Assessor's office said a "tentative" multiplier of .9222 has been set.

A multiplier compares the previous assessed value of property to the actual sale value to determine the average assessed value of property in an area.

Miller said the final multiplier will be set after an April 5 public hearing at

the Illinois Department of Revenue office in Springfield.

He said there is a chance the multiplier might be set higher after testimony from assessors, but that is very unlikely.

"It's happened twice in the last 15 years," he said.

A third problem the city is an April 13 vote on tax caps in Madison County.

"With tax caps coming through, naturally, most people smile when you say you can't raise taxes," Echols said.

Echols said the combined effect of the reassessment, negative multiplier and tax caps "scars me to death."

"I look for the worst but hope for the best, but it's going to make it tough," Echols said. "I've always thought small-town America was slowly getting into trouble. It's getting to the point where the poor taxpayer just can't afford to pay."

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Good Samaritan House making progress

Continued from Page 1A

its progress nevertheless.

The shelter has a spacious playground, lined with toys from wall to wall. Recently, a television set and a VCR were bought to add a little more life to the living room area.

Toward the back of the shelter, one of two bathrooms is being renovated. Adjacent to the bathrooms, a large area will be used to offer educational and employment training as a steppingstone to help the homeless get back on their feet.

"They will be able to work on their GEDs and computer

and typing skills," Pursell said. "Hopefully those skills will make them less dependent on social services."

The shelter currently has five bedrooms, three of which are comprised of two beds and a bunk bed. The other two rooms have two beds and a crib.

Because the shelter has enough space, Pursell would like to see the living quarters double from five to 10 bedrooms.

"We hope to have 10 in all, but that will take time, effort and money," Pursell said.

There are currently 14 families are now housed at the shelter. That number, however, fluctuates since

clients are only allowed to remain there for three months.

"It is used so that they can save money, pay off bills and find employment," Pursell said.

"We want to help them help themselves."

Besides basic necessities, the shelter offers other assistance through long-term housing and relocation, individual family counseling, a visiting nurse, transportation to and from school or day care for children, basic education and job skill training and access to public transportation.

For women to be taken into the shelter, they must reside in Madison County, be at least 18, have at least one dependent child and abide by the rules.

On me and everybody else because nobody wanted to make a mistake. I'm just glad everything went the way it did."

Ricky Woodard, 17, a senior who sang solo and ensemble, and Jeremy Champion, 18, a senior who also sang solo and ensemble, agreed that participating was enjoyable and the awards won were well-deserved.

"We put in a lot of time after school practicing," Woodard said. "That took a lot of dedication."

"It took plenty of hard work to get there," Champion added, "but it was well worth it because everybody had a lot of fun competing."

GCHS singers bring home 12 firsts

Continued from Page 1A

class at Granite City High School to earn a perfect score at the Triad High School Choir Contest, which was held March 6 in St. Jacob.

A total of 27 students from Mueller's class were among hundreds of participants from about 200 Southern Illinois high schools.

The participants took home five first-place finishes in solo ensemble, seven first-place solo finishes and one second-place finish in solo competition. In all, the GCHS vocalists received 13 medals in the competition.

"We sent the best of our best to compete," Mueller said. "It

was an honor for them to go."

During the competition, the participants sang classical songs judged by professionals in the music field.

Madrigal Vorce, a senior who won a superior rating, or first-place finish in the solo category, said performing in front of a judge was challenging.

"I was in this room with him and few other people," Vorce said. "The only reason I and everybody else did a good job stemmed from the fact that we gave each other a lot of support."

Amanda Taylor, a senior who sang ensemble, said that she also found singing in front of a judge challenging.

"It was different," Taylor said. "It put a lot of pressure

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Clinical Research Associates of Edwardsville urgently needs volunteers age 18 and over with Bipolar disorder who are currently depressed or manic to participate in a research study comparing an investigational drug with lithium and placebo.

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State emissions testing area expanded

Continued from Page 1A

percent hasn't occurred.

"There have been no real complaints and it seems things are going smoothly," said Julie Nepeschlan of the IEPA.

Nepeschlan said that there were previously 200,000 Metro East motorists in the program, which began in 1986. With the new program, 152,000 more motorists were added, she said.

The IEPA began its enhanced testing program Feb. 1. From that date through March 12, 11,663 Metro East motorists came in for initial tests.

Nepeschlan said that means that the vehicle had never been tested or had not been tested for two years.

Of those cars, 1,363 — or

11.7 percent — failed the test. Comparatively, under the old system, 3,148 cars were tested in January of which 317 or just over 10 percent failed.

Nepeschlan said both sets of statistics included failures for gas caps which are checked to make sure no vapors are escaping.

All vehicles 1968 and newer require testing every two years. Cars made in 1981 and newer will submit to the "IM 240" test, which stands for inspection/maintenance and 240 seconds, the duration of the test. Older vehicles will be tested with the former tailpipe system.

The testing is designed to help decrease ground-level ozone or smog. Ozone is a respiratory irritant that can cause infections, asthma attacks or other chronic

respiratory problems. Vehicles produce about one-third of ozone pollutants; the new test is estimated to be twice as effective in reducing pollution.

"Environmental testing is a good step toward improving air quality," said Karen Lanter, senior director of the American Lung Association's Southwestern Service Area in Collinsville. "(Cars) are the number one source of ozone in the St. Louis area, and it makes a lot of people sick."

Another major test change is that motorists now leave their cars and walk from a booth as their cars are driven to and tested on a treadmill.

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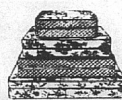
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Lawyers: DNA evidence can help, hurt criminal cases

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

Lawyers who for years watched criminal cases turn on the word of an eyewitness are slowly becoming professors of science.

In today's court, the standard of justice is frequently borne out by laboratory researchers who painstakingly analyze

DNA — life's ultimate fingerprint.

It is not an easy process to understand, nor is it simple to explain to a jury. But the results are undeniable, according to jurists who praise the new technology.

"There is no guarantee, but DNA is powerful evidence," says Billy Hahs, an assistant public defender in Madison County.

"The biggest mistake a defense lawyer can make is to

say, 'I don't know anything about this.' You just have to jump in and make yourself understand it."

Hahs' co-workers admire his knowledge of the subject, frequently turning to him for help in preparing a case. One wall of Hahs' office is lined with notebooks compiled since his first big DNA case in 1993. That case came while he was still a public defender in Spartanburg, S.C. A young man in his early 20s had been

accused in a string of rapes, and the public defender needed someone to take the time to learn the subject of DNA to prepare a defense.

Hahs got the job, but ultimately lost the case. Still, he said he gained important insight into the future of courtroom proceedings.

DNA — deoxyribonucleic acid — is the information storage molecule of the human cell. It contains the genetic material that defines who we

"There is no guarantee, but DNA is powerful evidence."

Billy Hahs
Madison County public defender

are and what we look like. DNA evidence includes saliva, blood, semen and hair roots. Profile the DNA correctly, experts say, and the chances are quite good that the perpetrator will be found or

the accused will be exonerated.

"I love DNA," Madison County Assistant State's Attorney Don Weber said. "I appreciate the science of it. It really adds to the certainty of the evidence. I would rather have one fingerprint than three eyewitnesses any day."

So would most prosecutors across America. After watching verdict after verdict reversed by DNA testing during the last decade, many criminal attorneys believe that DNA use has become mandatory in the courtroom.

A U.S. Department of Justice report in 1996 profiled cases of 28 men who were freed after years of imprisonment following DNA tests.

Attorney General Janet Reno noted in a related commentary that the study was a challenge to the scientific and justice communities.

Among other things, she said DNA evidence must be properly maintained and collected, forensic scientists must be proficient and credible, and testing methodology must be beyond question.

Hahs said he thinks that laboratories have a long way to go to establish total credibility.

He strongly criticized work done by the Illinois State Police Forensic Science Center in Chicago on the Kenneth Everage case in Alton.

Everage was tried in 1998 for home invasion, accused of stabbing an Alton schoolteacher after forcing his way into her home on Feb. 25, 1997. Part of the evidence was blood specks from the woman found on Everage's pants.

During a routine review of the State Police DNA report, Hahs said he found an error in the computation of statistical probabilities regarding Everage's involvement. The number actually increased when recalculated, but it cast doubt on the validity of the overall computations.

"They used the wrong numbers on calculations, and that's absolutely inexcusable," Hahs said.

His boss, Public Defender John Rekowski, got a state witness to admit the miscalculation during cross examination, Hahs said.

The jury was out for 10 hours before finding Everage guilty of home invasion, and Hahs thinks the long period had to do with uncertainty raised over the evidence.

Hahs, who has nine years experience as a public defender, said there are certain things that a testing laboratory must give him to make itself credible — among them notes, information on the number of samples tested, how calculations are arrived at and any contamination that may have been encountered.

"If they (lab personnel) do it right, then I'll have the results and prepare my case," he said.

There is no room for errors, but plenty of ways to make them, he maintains.

"What scares me is the day when a state's attorney walks into a courtroom and says, 'The only evidence of guilt we have is this DNA lab report.'"

Although he is a staunch defender of the science, Weber has fought against the use of DNA both as a prosecutor and a defense attorney.

In a pending Alton rape case, he unsuccessfully fought to keep the suspect from being tested for DNA.

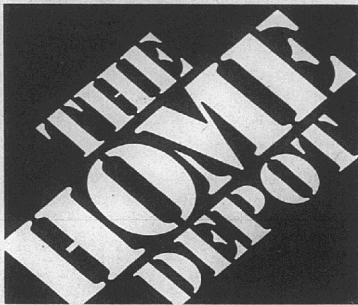
"There are some cases that are absolutely open, shut, done," he said.

The only reason a defense lawyer seeks DNA testing sometimes is the hope of a flaw in lab tests that could cast doubt on a suspect's guilt, Weber said.

As a defense attorney, Weber represented Samuel Pace of Ottoville in Jersey County in 1997. Pace was accused of murdering his cousin, Midge Crader, by slitting her throat and striking her repeatedly on the head with a hammer.

Weber said he argued against the DNA evidence at that base based on the statistical probabilities, not on the science. In the end, Pace was convicted and sentenced to life.

In Weber's mind, one in one million is no different than one in one billion to a jury that's in awe of both ratios.



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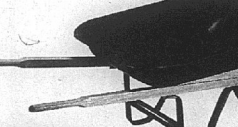
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Activist: U.S. sanctions hurting, not helping, Iraqi people

By Tony D. Maslinelli
Staff writer

Citing widespread malnutrition, diseases and socio-economic devastation, Jeff Guntzel, of the Chicago-based Voices in the Wilderness campaign, called for an end to United States economic

sanctions against Iraq during a special appearance at the SIUE-Edwardsville Religious Center on Sunday. Sponsored by the SIUE Catholic Campus Ministry, Guntzel's presentation included video footage of recent humanitarian missions to Iraq conducted by his organization. "There's more involved in this situation than just weapons of mass destruction," Guntzel said.

"Five to six thousand children die in Iraq every month as a result of economic sanctions. I don't condone the weapons development Saddam Hussein has done, but I don't condone taking it out on the civilian population, either." Guntzel believes the United States is placing economic gain before humanitarian concerns when it comes to Iraq.

"We feel the sanctions are in place to keep Iraq's oil off the market," he said. "Countries such as Saudi Arabia have been pumping twice as much oil since sanctions were put in place, making money and spending much of it on weapons purchased from the United States. The second issue is that releasing Iraq's oil onto the market would likely cause oil prices to crash, hurting oil-producing nations like the United States and its allies in the region."

Guntzel fully supports military sanctions against Iraq and believes the United Nations could prevent further development of nuclear, chemical and biological weapon systems by strictly monitoring imports into the country. "We can check every crate if we have to," he said.

Jackson: No strip clubs if elected

By Jason White
Staff writer

Councilman Eddie Jackson said he will not support the development of strip clubs in East St. Louis if elected mayor.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY "I haven't been for them in 20 years, and I'm not going to be for them," Jackson said. Jackson also said he would not accept campaign donations if he knew that the donor was affiliated with strip clubs. State records show that Jackson received a \$5,000 donation on Feb. 22 from National City Land Co. LLC, which wants to build a hotel, gas station and adult nightclub on land it owns in the former National City, according to a statement the company issued last week.

Larry Troesch, a regional manager with the company, said he wants to open the development this summer. Troesch said he also does business with the Deja Vu strip club chain.

"I'm wanting to invest millions of dollars," he said. "I don't see anyone knocking on doors to build things in East St. Louis."

Troesch said he donated to Jackson because "he's very interested in improving the quality of life in East St. Louis and being business-friendly."

Troesch said he never spoke to Jackson and there was no understanding that Jackson would support the strip club for the donation.

Troesch said the company will not build a strip club if residents oppose the plan. He said the other businesses could be profitable without the club.

"We're not going to do something where we're not wanted," he said. Councilwoman and mayoral candidate Debra Powell said she opposes strip clubs.

"We are already monitoring potential weapons manufacturing sites, and between the two, we can make sure there is no opportunity for the development of weapons of mass destruction. None of this involves starving the people of Iraq or preventing them from obtaining adequate medical care."

Guntzel rejects claims that Iraq is spending oil-for-food money on military items rather than feeding and aiding its own people.

"The oil-for-food money is strictly governed by the UN and is handled through an escrow account in France," he said. "None of that money can be spent without UN approval, and they know exactly where it is going. There simply is not enough."

While touring Iraq in October, Guntzel and his team observed hospitals that looked like abandoned warehouses. "There is broken equipment strewn about, flies and raw sewage in some places, and

people are laying on blood-stained mattresses," he said. "I believe what is going on there is a near-genocide tragedy. This is one of the worst human tragedies in this century."

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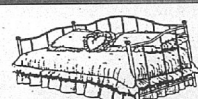
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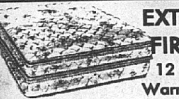
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Team of the Week Belleville all-stars have impressive numbers

Page 2B

Sports

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All-Journal Wesclin duo makes the first team

Page 4B

Daughter's effort makes columnist very proud

On a night some southwestern Illinois basketball fans may never forget, due to a 3-point basket that denied Waterloo Gibault the IHSAA Class A boys basketball title, this scribe shared with daughter Beth the conclusion of her collegiate basketball career. The end came in the form of a 78-69 loss for the Evansville Lady Aces to Louisiana State in the first round of the West Regional in the NCAA Division I Tournament. The game was played in Baton Rouge, La.

Art Voellinger

Sports Views

Evansville won the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament and automatic NCAA qualification the previous weekend in Des Moines, Iowa.

Against LSU, she contributed 2-for-2 free-throw shooting and three rebounds during a stretch late in the first half when the Aces rallied from a nine-point deficit to trail 38-35 at the half. But just that bit of contribution cannot be soothing for a person as competitive as Beth.

After all, she was the senior player quoted often after a rout of Wichita State in the first round of the MVC Tournament when she led all rebounders with 12 and added seven points and a steal in just 23 minutes of play.

Evansville then posted a 55-55 victory against top-seeded and nationally ranked Southwest Missouri State in the second round. That broke the Bears' 15-game win streak and averaged two regular-season losses.

A 75-72 overtime victory over Creighton followed, giving Evansville its first league crown. The Aces completed an amazing turnaround from 17-17 in MVC play in 1998 to an 11-7 league mark and NCAA berth in 1999.

To Beth, though, scoring 11 points and grabbing five rebounds in 20 minutes was below the standard she had set earlier in the season with a game-high 17 points and 12 rebounds in a win at Creighton.

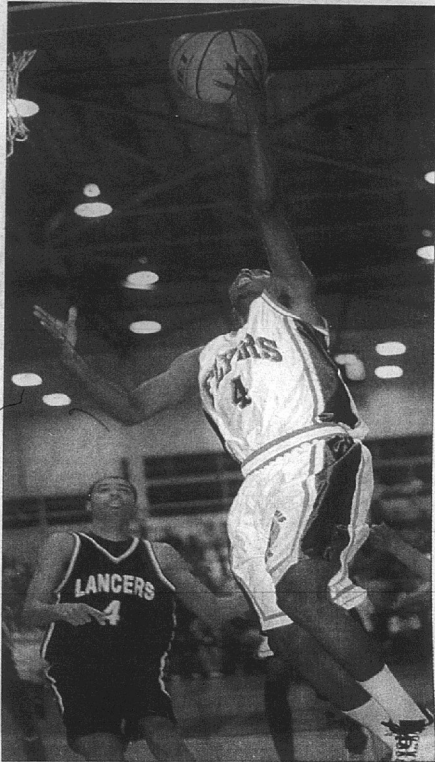
That had come during a streak of games started for her, a year after starting 16 games as junior, including the first five when the Aces went 5-0 before a slump that led to 10 consecutive losses and a 5-26 record.

Winning the postseason tournament wiped out memory of last season but as one of three seniors, the 1998-99 season still was not all that pleasant for Beth as Coach Kathi Bennett juggled the lineup.

What sustained Beth? The answer came in the form of those who had followed her as a four-sport athlete at Belleville Althoff, where her achievements included an IHSAA Class A state high jump championship.

Seldom did a day pass that a kind word did not come from Althoff or Belleville Area College (where Beth reached All-America honors) or from relatives and friends who witnessed the Valley tourney on TV and shared the compliments of the sportscasters.

Does the future hold more basketball for Beth? In mid-May, the Evansville team is scheduled to tour in Japan. On the court or not, my hope is she maintains



T.L. Witt photo

East St. Louis guard Daniel Hawkins scored 12 points but the Flyers suffered a 66-61 loss to Westchester St. Joseph on Friday in the IHSAA Class AA state quarterfinals.

Chargers pass the chemistry quiz

Eventual champ Westchester St. Joseph defeats Flyers in state quarterfinal

By Greg Stewart
Correspondent

BOYS BASKETBALL

No Bunson burners, no Pyrex glasses, no lab coats and no safety goggles but Friday's IHSAA Class AA quarterfinal game between East St. Louis and Westchester St. Joseph was a lesson in chemistry.

Both coaches had been talking about it all season. Westchester St. Joseph's Greg Pingatore said its lack of a dominant player and a size disadvantage.

East St. Louis coach Bennie Lewis talked about the early-season difficulties of meshing 18 kids consolidated from two programs. Pingatore found the proper equation to get the desired reaction Friday at Carver Arena in Peoria, substituting a solid rotation of eight players to beat East St. Louis 66-61.

The Chargers eventually went on to capture the state championship with wins Saturday against Chicago King (59-40) and then Gurnee Warren (61-51). They finished the season 32-1. East St. Louis closed its campaign at 24-6 as a 13-game winning streak came to an end.

Lewis never substituted during Friday's game, leaving his five starters to play 32 minutes for a second straight game. Perhaps in the end, as Westchester St. Joseph outscored the Flyers 30-14 in the fourth period, it caused East St. Louis to run out of gas.

"Our guys are conditioned to play the whole game," Lewis said. "Our guys weren't tired." But the fourth quarter wasn't kind for East St. Louis, which had blasted the Chargers 22-9 in the third period to erase a two-point deficit and take a 47-36 lead into the final period.

In the final period, St. Joseph turned steal after steal into a comeback victory. "Down 11, we extended the floor more than we did early in the game," Pingatore said. "It not only forced turnovers, it gave us rhythm."

"I kept saying they would make a run. We just didn't execute well or adjust to their double teams."

Bennie Lewis
East St. Louis

As we started to run, we started knocking down shots. That was the difference."

East St. Louis' loss overshadowed what may have been the best individual performance in a state quarterfinal loss in tournament history. Six-foot-9 junior Darius Miles led the Flyers with 20 points, nine rebounds, nine blocks, eight assists and two steals. Miles, who has built a national reputation with his rebounding and shot-blocking ability, impressed with his passing ability as he continually found the open man on the fast-break or heaved length of the court passes to teammates for easy baskets.

"Coach tells us everyday the game is won in the fourth quarter," Miles said. "They were the better team in the fourth. We were still in 'Showtime' mode."

St. Joseph eventually turned the Flyers' "Showtime" into "Slowtime." In the second quarter, Miles blocked three consecutive layup attempts in two seconds. In the fourth, he allowed the Chargers' 6-foot Brandon Watkins to grab an offensive free-throw rebound even though he was the only St. Joseph player on the lane.

For East St. Louis' 4th point late in the third quarter, Miles grabbed a rebound, led the break, dished a pretty pass and then cleaned up the glass for the put-back. But in the final four minutes of the game, he committed all six

See FLYERS, Page 3B

Grigsby completes 21-1 campaign

Gators avenge loss to Edwardsville

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Grigsby sat at 19-1 with two tests ahead of them to complete their near-perfect season.

They passed the first one without difficulty, beating Bethalto Civic

Memorial 45-35 on March 16 to clinch the district title.

On Thursday, the Lady Gators got some revenge against Edwardsville, the only team to beat them this year. Grigsby posted a 28-26 victory, which wasn't decided until the final minutes of the fourth quarter.

Annie McAttee really made two clutch, end-of-game steals off the press

and converted them into baskets." Grigsby coach Chuck Krauss said. "That put us down by one and they fouled us down the stretch and we made our free throws. But Annie's steals and baskets got the win for us." The game had nothing on the line for either team except pride. "This was a tough game and I knew it was going to be a tough game," Krauss said. "They are big and quick and very athletic. They play good defense, and they had nothing to lose. The character of our team really

"The kids are tough. That's why they are 21-1."

Chuck Krauss
Grigsby coach

showed through because they had

See GRIGSBY, Page 3B

Randle worked hard on both ends of the floor

Freeburg senior led Midgets to second straight regional title

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

When the Freeburg girls basketball team needed a big play, it looked to Allison Randle.

A 5-foot-8 senior, Randle is the Class A Player of the Year for the Journal Newspapers of Southern Illinois.

A four-year starter, she led the Midgets to a second consecutive IHSAA Class A regional championship. She finished her prep career as Freeburg's all-time scoring leader with 1,393 points.

Randle also holds school records for steals in a season (83) and a career (256).

Freeburg posted school records for victories in back-to-back seasons, going 19-9 this year after finishing 19-9 in 1997-98. Randle, a three-sport athlete who also competes in volleyball and track, was a big part of that success.

"Her leadership comes from scoring points and playing defense," Midgets coach Lori Crunk said. "In a crunch situation, we wanted to put the

ALL-JOURNAL BASKETBALL

CLASS A GIRLS
Player of the Year
Allison Randle, Freeburg.

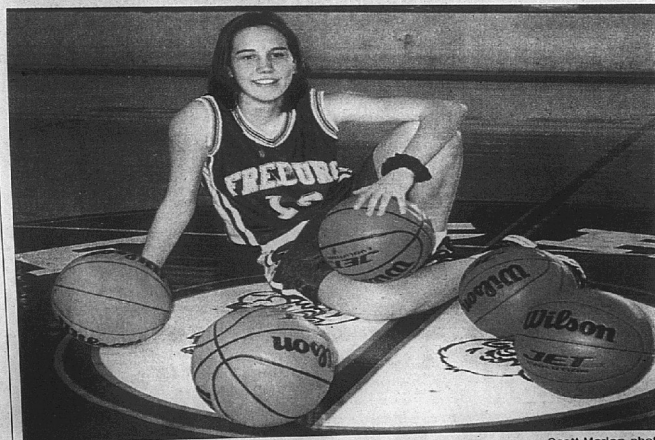
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Lutheran.
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Erica Ragsdale, Duplo.

ball in her hands. In the regional, she hit some free throws for us.

"She loves the game, she's dedicated and she works just as hard in the off-season as she does in the season. She's been lifting weights ever since I've known her and she's gone to a lot of camps. Everything you ask of her, she'll do."

"She has a lot of natural ability and she's aggressive. Some kids are kind of timid when it comes to going to the basket, but she definitely not afraid to shoot. She had the green light whenever she wanted."

See RANDLE, Page 4B



Scott Marion photo

Freeburg senior Allison Randle averaged 14.7 points per game this season and concluded her prep career with 1,393 points — and two regional championships.

See VOELLINGER, Page 2B

Sports

Belleville all-star squad features well-rounded students

Selection process is rigorous

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

The Belleville District 118 All-Stars boast some impressive numbers — not only on the basketball court, but on their report cards.

The team, comprised of boys from the district's eight schools, competed March 13 in the Southern Illinois Parks & Recreation Association Tournament in Centralia. The boys were all among the top players for their schools, but basketball ability isn't the sole criteria for being an all-star.

"The emphasis is on classroom conduct and academics," said Chuck Luge, who coached the District 118 team along with Brian Thompson. "Some kids haven't gotten that message yet, but maybe they'll learn later and be successful in high school."

"There are several hoops the kids had to jump through to get to this point. This is the first year we've had tryouts for the team, and each player had to be approved by their principal, their classroom teacher, their grade school coach and the Belleville parks and recreation staff just to be invited to the tryouts. We had the top 25 kids in an all-star doubleheader and picked the top 10 from that. We didn't want to penalize kids just because their teammates were good."

This is the ninth year Luge has been involved with the all-star team, which is sponsored by Catholic Fraternal Life and the Belleville Parks and Recreation Department. Luge teaches sixth-grade at Roosevelt and coaches seventh-grade basketball at Central Junior High. Thompson teaches eighth-grade social studies and coaches seventh-grade basketball at West Junior High.

"We've gone to Centralia the last four years. We went to Highland in years past," Luge said. "We've won the tournament once in my nine years with the team, and that was the year we put two teams in it."

"The last six years, we've always had a top-four finish. The last couple years we ran into Carlyle in the semifinals, and those kids play together all year."

Other teams which have competed the eight-team tournament in recent years include Centralia, Highland, East Alton, Roxana, Greenville, Salem and Selmaville. The District 118 squad practiced only twice before this year's tournament — once at Central Junior High and once at West Junior High.

Voellinger completes career at Evansville

Continued from Page 1B

the class that helped her become a leader for a team that finished at 19-11 and won more games in a season than Evansville did in the previous five combined (18).

"I enjoyed watching her play more than any other player," a loyal Aces fan told me at parents' night in late February.

That's saying a lot when you realize all-conference center, sophomore Shyla McKibbin is destined for All-America honors. A parent — a graying scribe could not be prouder.

DOBB'S Cardinals Team of the Week

"We gelled pretty well in the first practice," Luge said. "The kids are very unselfish on the court. They enjoy the game and it shows in their work ethic and attitude."

"The nice thing about this is the cooperation between the two sister schools (West and Central) on the junior high

level. It allows a special bond to form between the coaches and the kids."

Members of the 1999 all-star team were Brandon Schwoebel (Douglas School), Corey Mundelein, Derek Hoppe and Drew Bendick (Union); Brooks Bueschen and Jesse Hill (Westhaven); Lorenzo Graham

and Keith Muckensturn (Roosevelt); Michael Matthews (Franklin) and Ken Wilson (Abe Lincoln). Four players will attend junior high at West; the other six will go to Central.

Current high school players who were District 118 all-stars include Curtis Williams and

"The emphasis is on classroom conduct and academics."

Chuck Luge
Belleville co-coach

Ramon Kelly from Belleville West. Former prep standouts David Miller (West) and Wes Kennedy (Belleville East) were also part of the squad.

"We probably average one or two kids each year that you'll get to read about later at the varsity level," Luge said.

Conference I
Saint Louis U
outfielder and

SPORTS
BRIEFS

of the Week
founding March
Jason has
force for us
instrumental i
victories that
coach Bob Hu
deserving of t
I'm pleased th
USA has recog
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Wood's hot-hitting sparks St. Louis University

Conference USA selected Saint Louis University outfielder and Granite City native Jason Wood as the Hitter of the Week for the week ending March 14.

"Jason has been an offensive force for us and was instrumental in our five victories that week," Billikens coach Bob Hughes said. "He is deserving of this award and I'm pleased that Conference USA has recognized his efforts."

Wood, a senior rightfielder, hit .524 (11-for-21) for the week. He ripped four doubles, a triple, a home run and had seven RBI. Wood had the game-winning three-run home run in the bottom of the ninth against Detroit to start a four-game winning streak. In addition, he scored 11 runs in six games, stole two bases and drew two walks.

Wood led the team with a .469 batting average, 18 runs scored, nine doubles and a .796 slugging percentage through March 14. He was second on the team with 23 hits, was a perfect 4-for-4 in stolen bases and had not committed an error this season.

Registration

Mitchell Athletic Club is conducting Khoury League baseball and softball registration for boys and girls, ages 4-20.

The registration sessions are 4-7:30 p.m. each Saturday until

April 3 at the Lincoln Place Rec Center on Niedringhaus Avenue.

For information, call Duke Broyles at 451-7415.

Local boxer wins

Arthur "Flash" Johnson shook up the boxing scene Friday night by taking the National Boxing Association Bantamweight title from Roberto Lopez with a knockout in the fourth round.

"After 21 years of hard work, this is great," Johnson said. "I am the first from this area in Illinois to have ever done it. It sets a precedent for other young people in the area to follow their dreams. Sometimes it feels as though those dreams are starting to slip away, but it finally happened. I think I am the sixth member of the 1988 Olympic team to have won a world title."

"It feels great to be mentioned in the same breath with Rocky Marciano, Sugar Ray Robinson and Kid Calahan, who won the belt before me. This title was established in 1921, so it's great to be part of that legacy."

Johnson had plenty of support in the stands during the fight, which was held in Monroe, La. "It really gave me a joyous feeling, but it hasn't really sunk in yet," Johnson said. "My wife, my father, my niece and my relative from Monroe (La.) were there to support me and pick me up. It just was

such a feeling of accomplishment, a great feeling of finally getting it over with."

Promoters in St. Louis want Johnson to defend his title on June 4 at the Station Casino in St. Charles (Mo.) in a fight which would likely be broadcast nationally on the Fox Network. The probable opponent will be Arturo Estrada.

Soccer club

Metro FC, a youth select soccer club based in Edwardsville, has announced dates for the second season of the Metro FC Instructional Soccer League. The Metro FC Instructional League is offered to all boys and girls who are currently in grades 1-4.

Players can play in the IYSA sanctioned instructional league

as well as other recreational or select leagues. All games and training sessions for this in-house program beginning in March take place at the Metro FC Soccer Complex on the campus of Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

League training will be conducted by Metro FC Coaching Directors and USSF "A" licensed coaches Dale Schilly and Dave Fernandez and staffed by other Metro FC coaches.

Training will be on Wednesday nights and games will be on Sundays.

The program is designed to provide appropriate training to young players who are in their initial stages of development and provide quality and fun, additional insight to continue their development.

The program has limited

enrollment. For more information on registration please call Dale Schilly or Dave Fernandez in the Metro FC office at (618) 867-8333 or e-mail the office at metrofc@aol.com.

Family Sportsplex

The following events are scheduled at the Family Sportsplex, 2346 Mascoutah Ave. in Belleville:

- A clinic for basketball officials, set for the end of March. The clinic will teach official skills needed to obtain an Illinois license.

- Junior high and high school basketball tournaments each month in 1999. Spring league signups are also forming for this age group.
- Adult basketball leagues for men and women. The

season runs from April through June.

- Summer day camps (breakfast is available).

- A basketball clinic, set for 9 a.m. to noon each day on May 3, 10, 17 and 24. This is for boys and girls ages 6-7 and 8-9. The cost for four 90-minute sessions is \$20.

For more information on any event at the Family Sportsplex, call 277-7111.

Golf tourney

The fourth annual Little Devils Golf Tournament will be held Sunday, June 13 at Tamarack Country Club in Shiloh.

For information, call Ed Dintelmann (277-9454), Steve Gehrs (234-3771) or Mike Meehan (235-4887).

Grigsby completes 21-1 campaign

Continued from Page 1B

nothing to gain, nothing to play for except pride. It was a tremendous effort on their part. They wanted to beat Edwardsville bad."

"That character that carried the Gators all season put them over the top at the end."

"The Edwardsville coach said that they had been having trouble closing wins out at the end of games," Krauss said. "They could have gone undefeated this year, they really could have, that's the kind of team they have. The coach even commented that our kids played tough against them, especially their man-to-man defense."

"The kids are tough. That's why they are 21-1. I wish I could say that coaching

had something to do with it, but they are just excellent athletes, that's all there is to it. The varsity program at Granite City High School has five or six good years ahead of them, I think."

The Gators used a team effort to put together the successful season.

"Kelly Harris is really the backbone of our team," Krauss said. "Our point guards — Katie Hubbard and Jackie Kacera — really did a fine job handling the ball for us. Tiffany Rath may be the most improved player on the team. Her defense was great, she is very quick. Whitney Sykes is just a seventh-grader, but she played great. We have her for another year, so I look forward to that."

"Ashlie Reader came off the bench and gave us some good minutes. We beat Bethalto by four earlier in the season and in that game she made three

baskets one right after the next to get us into overtime. That's another seventh-grader who did that."

"Hannah Kampfoeffer really improved and played some big minutes for us. She came in against Collinsville when Kelly Harris was hurt and played great. Kara Paoli did a good job for us."

"We were the smallest team in the conference so we had to get the ball and go and the kids did a great job, an outstanding job. Every one of these kids has stepped up and scored in double figure when someone else was hurt and we needed it. I had a great time with these girls and I think they did too. They had an exciting season. It's an unbelievable effort for these kids to do that, go 21-1, in this district; it is so strong."

Flyers fall to Chargers in IHSA Class AA quarterfinal

Continued from Page 1B

of his turnovers.

"We've had a tendency to do that, wearing teams down in the fourth quarter," Pingatore said. "If we keep the pressure on the whole game, by the fourth quarter their shots don't fall, they don't have the legs and we force some turnovers."

Watkins led St. Joseph with

25 points, 15 coming in the decisive fourth quarter. Steve Morgan added 14 and Jon Brown scored 12 with nine rebounds before fouling out.

For East St. Louis, Daniel Hawkins and George Humphard each added 12 points.

"I kept saying they would make a run," Lewis said. "We just didn't execute well or

adjust to their double teams.

"As a team, we took some bad shots and made some bad decisions. That cost us."

Westchester St. Joseph 66,

East St. Louis 61

ST. JOSEPH FG 30 30 FT 18 18 REB 30 30 P 18 18

CHAD LANCE 10 10 0 0 10 10 10 10

STEVE MORGAN 14 14 0 0 12 12 12 12

JON BROWN 12 12 0 0 12 12 12 12

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ALISA SNOW 12 12 0 0 12 12 12 12

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Rebounds — Westchester St. Joseph 36 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Assists — Westchester St. Joseph 12 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Steals — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Blocks — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Minutes — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points in the paint — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Fast break points — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Second half points — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points off the bench — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points in transition — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points in the key — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points in the paint — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

Points in the key — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 10, Minton 10, Perry 6, East St. Louis 10)

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Points in the paint — Westchester St. Joseph 10 (Chad Lance 10, Morgan 10, Brown 10, Watkins 1

Movie Schedule

Film timetable for Wednesday, March 24. For times on other days, check local theaters.

CARMIE PETITE
1-70 and Hwy. 157, Collinsville, 344-1728
Analyze This (R) 7:00, 9:30
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 7:05, 9:25
The King And I (G) 7:10, 9:15
Carrie 2 (R) 7:15, 9:35

EASTGATE CINE
Eastgate Plaza, E. Alton, 254-5298
The King And I (G) 6:40, 6:40
Analyze This (R) 5:00, 7:20
The Corruptor (R) 4:20, 7:10
Carrie 2 (R) 4:40, 7:50
The Other Sister (PG-13) 4:00, 6:50
Wing Commander (PG-13) 4:30, 6:30

COTTONWOOD EDWARDSVILLE CINEMA
Edwardsville, 656-6390
My Favorite Martian (PG) 7:15
The Prince Of Egypt (PG) 6:45
Message In A Bottle (PG-13) 7:00
Office Space (R) 7:10, 9:10

LINCOLN THEATER
103 E. Main, Belleville, 253-0123
Virus (R) 7:00, 9:25
Patch Adams (PG-13) 7:15, 9:30
Office Space (R) 7:10, 9:10

HALLS FERRY 14 CINE
2800 Target Drive, 822-4900
True Crime (R) 5:00, 7:20
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 7:00, 7:55

Wing Commander (PG-13) 5:35, 7:40
The King And I (G) 5:30, 7:25
The Corruptor (R) 5:05, 8:00
8 MM (R) 5:45, 8:15
Carrie 2 (R) 5:20, 8:20
My Favorite Martian (PG) 5:20
The Other Sister (PG-13) 7:20
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 5:10, 8:10
Analyze This (R) 5:40, 8:05
Payback (R) 5:25, 8:25
Baby Geniuses (PG) 5:20, 7:30
Ravenous (R) 5:15, 7:25
Prince Of Egypt (PG) 5:40
She's All That (PG-13) 7:45

JAMESTOWN 14 CINE
209 Jamestown Mall, 822-4900
Payback (R) 1:40, 5:15, 7:45
Analyze This (R) 1:00, 4:45, 7:10, 9:20
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 1:25, 5:10, 7:30, 9:35
October Sky (PG) 1:35, 5:05, 8:00
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 1:15, 4:50, 7:15, 9:25
My Favorite Martian (PG) 1:50, 4:45
The Other Sister (PG-13) 8:10
Crucial Intentions (R) 1:10, 5:30, 7:50
Baby Geniuses (PG) 1:15, 4:25, 7:00, 9:00
Wing Commander (PG-13) 1:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:30
The King And I (G) 1:20, 5:05, 7:15, 9:10
Carrie 2 (R) 1:45, 5:20, 7:40, 9:40
The Corruptor (R) 1:45, 4:45, 8:20
Ravenous (R) 1:55, 5:10, 7:40, 9:40
True Crime (R) 1:05, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30

NAMEOKI CINEMA
30 Nameoki Village, Granite City, 877-6630
Crucial Intentions (R) 7:00
She's All That (PG-13) 7:15
O'Fallon 15 CINE
1320 Central Park Dr., O'Fallon, 822-4900
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:15
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:30
Crucial Intentions (R) 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25
Carrie 2 (R) 2:15, 4:35, 7:10, 9:30
My Favorite Martian (PG) 1:10, 3:10, 5:15, 7:25
200 Cigarettes (R) 9:25
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 9:45
October Sky (PG) 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:55
Prince Of Egypt (PG) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30
Stompin' (PG-13) 7:45
Payback (R) 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35
The King And I (G) 1:15, 3:30, 5:50, 8:00
Wing Commander (PG-13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:25, 7:40
She's All That (PG-13) 1:50, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25
Message In A Bottle (PG-13) 2:15, 5:10, 8:10
Shakespeare In Love (R) 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
The Other Sister (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

QUAD CINEMA
Belleville, 253-1220
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 4:15, 6:50, 9:20
Carrie 2 (R) 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
Analyze This (R) 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
True Crime (R) 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

ROXANA 254-6746
My Favorite Martian (PG) 7:00
ST. CLAIR 10
50 Ludwig Drive, Fairview Heights, 398-8383
Baby Geniuses (PG) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05
Analyze This (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15
Analyze This (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
Verity Blues (R) 1:35, 7:35
Blast From The Past (PG-13) 4:35
8 MM (R) 1:40, 4:40, 7:20
True Crime (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
True Crime (R) 2:15, 5:15, 8:15
The Corruptor (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00
Ravenous (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10
Serving Private Ryan (R) 1:20, 4:40, 7:50

SHOWCASE 12 EDWARDSVILLE
6633 Center Grove Rd., Edwardsville, 659-7469
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 4:20, 7:30, 9:30
The Corruptor (R) 4:45, 7:40, 10:05
Crucial Intentions (R) 8:20, 7:40, 9:55
True Crime (R) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Analyze This (R) 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
The Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 5:00, 8:00, 9:20
The King And I (G) 4:30, 6:40, 8:00
The Other Sister (PG-13) 5:00, 8:00
Ravenous (R) 8:30, 7:50, 10:10
Wing Commander (PG-13) 4:20, 7:15, 9:40
October Sky (PG) 4:10, 6:45, 8:15
Carrie 2 (R) 5:10, 7:45, 10:15

WATERLOO CINEMA
Route 3, Waterloo, 939-9997
Forces Of Nature (PG-13) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:15
The Other Sister (PG-13) 6:30, 7:50
The King And I (G) 5:50, 7:50
Wing Commander (PG-13) 5:10, 7:10
Analyze This (R) 5:15, 7:15
My Favorite Martian (PG) 5:00
Crucial Intentions (R) 7:00
The Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13) 5:10, 7:50

WEST OLIVE 16
12657 Olive, 514-1616
Ravenous (R)
True Crime (R)
Forces Of Nature (PG-13)
The King And I (G)
8 MM (R)
The Corruptor (R)
October Sky (PG)
Crucial Intentions (R)
Payback (R)
Message In A Bottle (PG-13)
Analyze This (R)
Wing Commander (PG-13)
Deep End Of The Ocean (PG-13)
The Other Sister (PG-13)
My Favorite Martian (PG)
Baby Geniuses (PG)
Shakespeare In Love (R) Check theater for times

WESTPORT
910 Westport Plaza, 822-4900
Elizabeth (R) 5:00, 7:30
Life Is Beautiful (PG-13) 5:05, 7:35

Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24
The Cancer moon in its second quarter illuminates the emotions that have led to recent unexplained behaviors. When you stay open to new ideas, it is easy to see the missing links. The Cancer moon processes windows of opportunity to use our intuition and knowledge of emotions to understand the complexities of human nature.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY
(March 24) If you push yourself, you can create miracles. Take on all types of commitments, as luck protects you. Next month is a likely marriage month for singles. If married, you decide to start a new phase of family life — perhaps another child, a new business or an unusual investment opportunity. Travel and increased vitality in June make you attractive. Libra and Scorpio are enamored.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Deal with authorities in a conservative, practical manner. Your health is important now; give it care. Money issues feel pressing, you're tempted to see the situation as half-empty rather than half-full. Travel or a movie helps.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You may be inclined to brood over your destiny at the moment and force a separation through an argument. You should focus on completing projects at home or relationship bind. Share your insights and thoughts freely. Dig through the hype to find the truth.

CENI (May 21-June 21) Confess your true feelings to a sympathetic person. An old schoolmate or colleague helps

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during a job search. A new love interest shows a less appealing side. Put money in the bank, or it burns a hole in your pocket.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You have outstanding money luck that could involve commissions. An old friend's argument is ultimately convincing. Get started on a domestic or creative project right away. Be honest with a distant lover.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Insist on a straight answer from the powers that be. Good news involves financial aid or a settlement. Those looking for work could receive several offers at once. A potential employer makes a tedious job worth your while.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Prove that you can finally hold your own while doing spectacular work. Tie up loose ends with a past romance or relationship bind. Share your insights and thoughts freely. Dig through the hype to find the truth.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Turn to a higher authority with

your complaint. Avoid getting swept up in competition. Flirtatious colleague may have an ulterior motive. Financial requests are met as long as they are within reason.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Beware of misusing your energy — running on sheer adrenaline is like using junk fuel. Someone reveals his or her tricks of the trade. You receive extremely sound advice. Career moves bring good luck.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You can make almost anything happen now. Your career picks up speed. Peripheral people in life seem more interesting than ever. Square away debts and deals. A realistic approach to love and money is essential.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your particular skills are in great demand. Decide exactly how much you're willing to sacrifice before making a commitment. Reconsider your allegiance to a group. Small talk can be revealing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Play hard now that each move you make counts. Be circumspect about a burgeoning romance. Avoid biting off more than you can chew when dealing with someone else's emotional battle. There's luck with investments.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You excel with both the written and spoken word. Confront someone regarding his or her destructive behavior. Step back, and see the humor inherent in a current situation. Your romantic expectations are met.

'The Corruptor' has no redeeming value

By Brian Kaller
Staff writer

Fans of the Hong Kong action genre and its biggest star, Chow Yun-Fat, will be sorely disappointed with Fat's latest American movie, "The Corruptor." Fat plays Nick Chen, a decorated Chinese-American detective assigned to patrol Chinatown. Increasing gang violence leads him to request more staff, but to his surprise his new partner, Wallace (Mark Wahlberg), is young, inexperienced, and white. Chen is not pleased with his new partner, but decides to

look after him and show him the ropes. At the same time, he must conceal his longtime links with the Triad mob family, who give him bribes, weapons and tips in exchange for safety. But Wahlberg knows far more than he lets on, and as he and Chen grow closer, Chen becomes less sure of his loyalties. With predictable improbability, Wallace's first arrest of a Chinese gang also nets an undercover FBI agent. Another FBI agent wants to harass Wallace and destroy Chen, for obscure reasons. Chen and Wallace must protect

an old man named Uncle Benny with mob ties (Kim Chan). (Lethal Weapon fans may recall that in the fourth of that series, Chan also played an elderly Chinese man named Uncle Benny whose business is actually a front for the Chinese mob.) At one point, Wallace reveals he speaks Chinese, a fact that is forgotten during the rest of the film. Through it all, Chen and Wallace undergo manly bonding by gambling together, shooting gang members together and sharing prostitutes.

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Suburban Journals

Home security inspections provided to St. Louis County senior citizens

By Donald Scates
Staff writer

St. Louis County elderly residents can feel safe in their homes and on the streets again, thanks to a county program.

Security Assistance for the Elderly provides free home security inspections for St. Louis County residents 60 years and older who earn less than \$26,000 a year.

"We provide an installation of deadbolt locks, security devices, locks and smoke alarms for low-income households," program manager Ellen Sherman said. "This service provides a profile of areas of the home

which would benefit from additional security measures," she said.

The number of participants "hasn't been spectacular" but officials are hoping more residents join the program, Sherman said.

SAFE works in collaboration with St. Louis County Police Department and St. Louis County Department of Human Services. The program is funded by St. Louis County general revenue.

The program is also an affiliate of the county's Aging, Youth and Veterans Services which provides essential services and volunteer opportunities which assist older adults maintain

independent lifestyles in the community.

Rick Lee, project manager for Aging Services, said SAFE has been providing protective services to older adults for many years.

"The program has helped a lot of seniors for more than 23 years," Lee said. "SAFE is a program that makes older citizens feel safe in their own homes."

Lee also referred to a program related to SAFE, called the Vial of Life, which targets saving the lives of senior citizens.

Lee said seniors submit all their medical information on a vial.

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Zoolin operat

By Sonia Ahuja
Staff writer

The St. Louis Zoo miniature railroad additional crew members board this year.

The Zooline Railroad expected to open St. The opening marks beginning of Zooline season of operation. A fireman will go along with the engine of each train. Boever, zoo assistant

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Zooline Railroad goes back in operation after fatal accident

By Sonia Ahuja
Staff writer

The St. Louis Zoo's miniature railroad will have additional crew members on board this year. The opening marked the beginning of Zooline's 36th season of operation. A fireman will now ride along with the engineer in the engine of each train, said Bill Boever, zoo assistant director.

A conductor will remain at the back of each train. Last October, engineer John Forsythe, 67, was killed after the train he was operating derailed. The train ran off the tracks and the engine overturned. It was the first employee fatality at the zoo. The position of fireman was added this season as an extra safety precaution. "(The fireman) is there in case an additional pair of hands is needed for assisting

with the train's operation," Boever said.

An investigation conducted by zoo officials into what caused October's accident found the train's engine had no mechanical problems.

"We were never able to pinpoint any mechanical defects with the train," Boever said.

He said the train was tested going at six times the speed it normally does and the train's main brake stopped the train. Boever said an autopsy on Forsythe's body indicated nothing unusual — such as a heart attack or stroke — that may have led Forsythe to lose control.

The train has a second hand brake in addition to a main hand brake. Boever said the second hand brake had not been used when the train derailed last year.

Dogtown restaurant sponsoring drive for Zimbabwe orphanage

By Clayton Berry
Staff writer

Danny Liston isn't searching for a pot of gold. No, the owner of Seamus McDaniel's, 1208 Tamm Ave. on the South Side, knows exactly where the pot is. It's on his bar.

The only problem is that this pot needs filling. Liston has started a drive to help an orphanage in Zimbabwe. Liston visited the African republic in January with his wife, Pam, and 30 members of Service International. The group is a relief organization based at St. Louis Family Church in Chesterfield Valley.

The church's pastor, Jeff Perry, urged his congregation to help victims of the St. Louis area flood in 1993. That led to the formation of Service International. The group has since helped disaster victims

across the United States. Members also rehabbed a homeless shelter in Atlanta. American native Tom Deushelle, a pastor serving on the outskirts of Zimbabwe's capital, asked for help.

Service International members went there thinking they were going to help train young people the basics of metal stud construction. The Carpenters District Council of St. Louis helped instruct church members before they left.

The training could lead to jobs for the Zimbabwe residents and could help the Zimbabwe church members build themselves a new facility cost-effectively.

While in Zimbabwe, though, Liston also traveled to the African church's orphanage. With an AIDS epidemic sweeping that nation, the St. Louis native was introduced to dozens of children without parents.

"As we drove there, the kids started singing to us in our honor. It was very humbling," Liston said. "We were crying even before we got to the orphanage."

"It was life-changing." At the facility, children were housed in three small buildings. The pastor there said many more could be helped if the ministry had more buildings. Liston asked what they needed. Money was the answer.

Liston said the immediate need is three more structures. A school on the site provides education, and the orphanage provides clothing and food. The church is part of a local network trying to help the rapidly growing number of homeless children.

Every dollar raised from the "pot of gold" will go to the ministry that runs the orphanage, Liston said. Those who want to donate directly may call 645-6337 for more information.

Liston brought back pictures of the children. He plans to post them in the establishment. A pub/restaurant might seem an unlikely place for charity. Liston, however, doesn't think so.

"The goodness of God can operate out of anywhere as long as He's given space."

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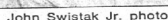
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A bill that would allow the state treasurer to issue state-sanctioned commemorative coins and medallions for the benefit of nonprofit groups passed the Illinois House March 12. House Bill 691 (Mathias-Rost) was sponsored by the Illinois House Assembly Committee on Finance and Commerce. The bill would allow nonprofit organizations with a method of fund raising and commemorating important events.

This legislation would allow Illinois organizations to honor important events through the issuance of state-authorized medallions." Topinka said. "Not only will it provide a means by which significant events and happenings can be commemorated and publicized, but it also will help their fund-raising efforts."

The legislation would require the General Assembly to adopt a joint resolution approving the organization and the commemorative program. The concept was inspired by similar successful programs in Minnesota and Michigan.

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term when he is sentenced June 18, according to his attorney, Brian Polinske. Deichmann withdrew his not guilty plea and entered the new plea before U.S. District Judge Paul Riley in East St.

Legislation sponsored by state Rep. Jay Hoffman, D-Collinsville, would prevent people with criminal records from working or being hired as police officers.

The measure has been passed by the Illinois House Executive Committee, and Hoffman said he hoped it would come up for a vote before the full House and be passed within the next three weeks.

Deichmann was indicted in September by a federal grand jury. He was among 100 people arrested in 22 states and 13 countries as part of an

Federal authorities recently executed another search warrant for a residence in East Alton, looking for child pornography, he said. A grand jury was to consider charges

have to forfeit about \$2,000 worth of computer equipment seized during a search of his home by U.S. Customs agents on Sept. 1.

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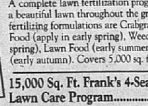
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Coyote sightings unnerving some West County residents

Missing dogs, cats blamed on predator attacks

By Mary Shapiro
and
Heather Cole
Staff writers

Coyotes, despite tipping the scales at only about 30 pounds each, have weighed heavily on the minds of some west St. Louis County residents.

In Chesterfield and Town and Country, some residents have seen the animals. Some have even blamed the canines for the loss of pets.

"Over the last few months, residents of White Plains subdivision have seen coyotes traveling in groups of as many as three," said Chesterfield Councilman Larry Grosser.

"They originally asked me if the police could come out and shoot (the coyotes) because residents were claiming some dogs and cats had been attacked and/or killed," he said. "I told them, 'We can't do that and you can't either—

unless you want to be charged with illegal discharge of a firearm.'"

Experts with the Missouri Department of Conservation said the coyotes will eventually go away if left alone.

John Schaeffer, president of White Plains' board of trustees, said he had hoped to have the coyotes relocated.

"But I'm afraid they'd come back," Schaeffer said.

"Unfortunately, some kids will feed them, and that can encourage them to get too close to people," he said.

"Also, even with our leash law, people let small pets run loose. Coyotes can pounce from 8 or 10 feet away and can kill a small pet very easily."

Nicole Duffee, a resident of the Green Trails West subdivision in Chesterfield and a veterinarian, said recent sightings by her and her neighbors have included three coyotes in a group, likely a

female in heat followed by two males.

"When I talk to neighbors with pets, I make a point of warning them that their animals should be out strictly under their supervision," Duffee said.

"To tether a pet in the yard without someone there puts it at risk — it's like serving it to a coyote on a cracker."

Coyotes are very intelligent, she said.

"If they get hungry, they become bold," Duffee said. "A neighbor had coyotes on her deck, almost at her back door. There have been reports of missing cats in the area, and goslings have also disappeared."

Duffee believes coyotes have as much right to the community as their human neighbors.

"I don't feel we should eliminate them. We need to understand the threat and take proper precautions," she said.

David Dicks, another Green Trails West resident, is looking into building an enclosure on his deck so his three cats can be outdoors safely.



Contributed photo

New Eagles

Eagles Auxiliary 1126 of Granite City recently initiated two new members into the ranks of club membership. The new members are Helene Gibson, left, and Mary Ann Murphy, right. The new members flank Auxiliary President Nina Jackson, center, who presided over the ceremony.

Edwardsville High School holds health fair

By Sanford J. Schmidt
Staff writer

High school students seem to be taking a greater interest in

health matters, both students and exhibitors said during a health fair at Edwardsville High School.

"We've had very good response, both from the students and the exhibitors," said Sherry Skelton, an Edwardsville High School health education teacher who helped coordinate the event.

"I'm surprised at all the student interest," said student Doug Wede, 17, of Edwardsville. "It doesn't seem like it's boring to them."

He said students seem to be taking advantage of all the recent advances in scientific knowledge in the health field.

"The technology for studying these issues is also better," Wede said.

"Everybody is into some kind of workout or other," said Paul Hooks, 18, a senior from Edwardsville.

The fair consisted of displays from 35 exhibitors, ranging from the Edwardsville Police Department to hospitals and agencies that seek to improve health, such as the American Red Cross and Cerebral Palsy of Southwestern Illinois.

"We've had some inquisitive people," said Beth

Vonderheide, representing Cerebral Palsy of Southwestern Illinois.

The display on epilepsy touched off some responsive chords.

"Everybody that comes by knows somebody or is related to somebody who has epilepsy," said Steve Ackerman, a social service worker for the Epilepsy Foundation of Southwestern Illinois.

The students seemed to have their favorites among the displays.

Hooks said the breath analysis testing by the police department showed how little alcohol it takes to affect your driving.

Some reacted to the display of the amount of fat in fast foods, put on by Anderson Hospital of Maryville.

"Oh, my Lord," said Jennifer Perry, 17, of Glen Carbon, reacting to the 100 grams of lard in a Denny's "Grand Slam" breakfast. "I think it's gross."

Annette Sinclair, 16, is naturally slim and cats whatever she wants.

"I have a high metabolism," she said, adding that she also exercises regularly.

Sinclair's favorite part of the health fair was the plastic dot placed on the skin to reflect the amount of stress the subject is feeling.

"I like the dot. Right now, it says I'm unsettled. I just took a quiz, so I should be relieved."

The fair is sponsored by Skelton, physical education teacher Sharon Petty and the high school's coordinator of nursing, Doris Dankenbring.

The fair is an effort to make students aware of the health services that are available and help them obtain valuable information and make responsible decisions, Dankenbring said.

Ring in 2000 with BAC Travel Club

Ring in 2000 in the company of entertainers Michael Feinstein, Rosemary Clooney and the Tucson Symphony Orchestra with a New Year's extravaganza organized by Bellevue Area College's Travel Club and Southwest Bank.

The Dec. 30-Jan. 3, 2000, Millennium New Year's Extravaganza takes travelers to Tucson, Ariz., for a private gala and sightseeing at some of Tucson's popular attractions, including the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and the Old Tucson Studios. Individuals travel to Tombstone by railroad and also visit the O.K. Corral and also jaunt into Mexico.

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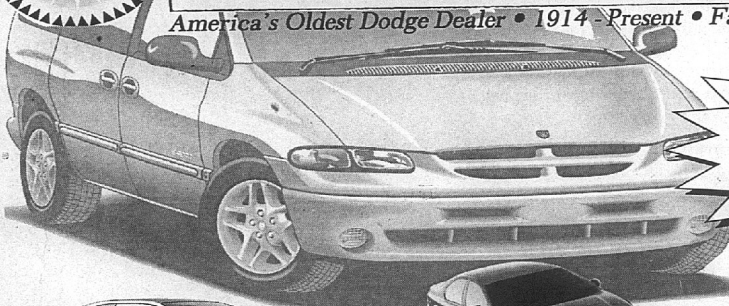
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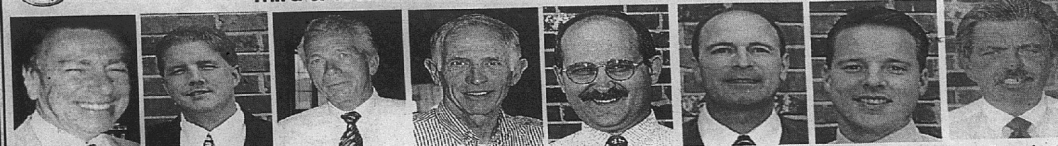
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Forerunner of success

The St. Elizabeth School sixth-grade girls basketball team recently completed a successful season, entering five tournaments and winning four of them. They lost only two games during the season, including the only tournament they finished second in. Members of the team were, front row, from left, Sara Kromray, Amy Kennerly, Katie Meador, Lauren Smith; middle row, Lauren Riggs, Jennifer Whitt, Hannah Kutosky, Laura Mills, Jenna Ely; back row, Meagan Gavlick, Susan Ratkewicz, Karen Miller, Ashley Meuren.

Media, volunteers thanked for papal coverage

By Glen Sparks
Staff writer

For a couple of days in January, the world's media descended upon St. Louis. The St. Louis Archdiocese issued 2,500 media credentials during Pope John Paul II's pastoral visit here Jan. 28 and 29.

About 30 local media members and communications volunteers for the archdiocese attended an appreciation get-together on March 21 at the bowling lanes at Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church, 6596 Smiley Road, near Interstate 44 and Arsenal Street on the South Side.

"This was a way of saying 'thank you' to the people who helped us and to the people in the media who told the story of the pope's visit," said Steve Mamanella, a spokesman for the archdiocese.

"I think the media covered the story fairly and extensively," The Rev. Dale Wunderlich, pastor of Epiphany, served as a papal commentator for KWMU-FM radio and National Public Radio and for KSDK-TV (Channel 5).

Like Mamanella, he gives high marks to the media for its coverage. "I think they were thorough,

and I was impressed with the homework they did," Wunderlich said. "I found them very conscientious."

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Landmark Chase Park Plaza returns in glory

By Sonia Ahuja
Staff writer

The Chase is back. The fruits of a \$70 million landmark renovation of the Chase Park Plaza, at Kingshighway and Lindell boulevards in the Central West End, were revealed last week. The "new" Chase has been redeveloped as a residential and entertainment complex and totals more than 1 million square feet.

A reception Thursday marked the official opening of the Chase banquet room, known as the Starlight Roof at the Chase; the new Chase Park Plaza Cinemas; and the plaza's restored Grand Lobby. Guests also had the opportunity to see some of the Chase's 475 restored luxury apartments.

A parking garage with a capacity of 700 has also opened adjacent to the Chase on Kingshighway.

Chase officials said they believe their goal of melding the old with the new was achieved in the restoration. "Not only have we brought the Chase back as it was, but we have brought it back ready for a new millennium," said

Jim Smith, managing general partner of Kingsdell L.P., the developers and owners of the Chase. "We have made the old match with the new."

Mayor Clarence Harmon said the city is pleased with the renovation.

"There is work still to be done," he said. "It's going to be an exciting place to be."

Traditional elegance has been combined with contemporary amenities throughout the Chase.

"We've worked hard to bring back the feel of the Chase while re-creating new systems," said Dean Chininis, managing director. "We've re-created everything new with high-quality materials and craftsmanship."

Detailled with Italian marble floors and cherry wood finishes, The Grand Lobby is designed in warm colors. Hand-painted murals line the side walls of the five

auditoriums in the new cinema. The total seating capacity in the cinema is more than 700.

A film screening there Friday benefited the St. Louis International Film Festival.

The Starlight Roof, located at the top floor, is encircled with windows to give guests a comprehensive view of the area. It accommodates more than 600 people. A catering service owned by Steven Becker will operate there.

On Saturday, the first wedding reception was celebrated at the Starlight. Ranken Jordan, A Children's Rehabilitation Center had a benefit there Sunday.

The 11-story Chase Hotel was built in 1922. It merged with the 29-story Park Plaza, built in 1929, in 1956 and became a single property connected by two lobbies.

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Ticket Reservations: 537-4962 (recorded)

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Community Calendar

Continued from Page 11B

BINGO, 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday, 3910 Highway 111, Pontoon Beach.

EAGLE PARK ACRES SENIORS OF MADISON meet from 10 a.m. to noon every Thursday at 100 Hill St. (rear), Eagle Park Acres, Madison.

FREE SENIOR CITIZEN EXERCISE CLASS meets at 9 a.m., every Thursday, Anchorage Recreation Center, 2909 Edwards.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PINOCCHLE CLUB for seniors 55 and over meets at 12:30 p.m. every Friday at the Harold Brown Building, Franklin Avenue and Pontoon Road. Call 877-0350 for more information.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PINOCCHLE CLUB for seniors 55 and over meets at 12:30 p.m. every Friday at the Harold Brown Building, Franklin Avenue and Pontoon Road. Call 877-0350 for more information.

Support Groups

THE CHURCH OUTREACH INC. meets 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday night at True Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, 1641 3rd St. in Madison. The CHURCH is an outreach program designed to support its community in the struggle with urge control. All

Bridal forms now available

Forms for free bridal announcements are available at the paper, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, Ill. 62040. Contact us at 876-2000.

meetings are confidential. For more information, call 877-TRUE.

THE COHEARTS (Commitment of Healing Emotions and Recovery Through Support) Survivors of Suicide Support Team) is open for anyone who has lost a friend or loved one due to suicide. The group keeps all information confidential and allows you to express your thoughts and feelings openly. Meetings are at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at Behavioral Health Alternatives Inc., 337 E. Ferguson in Wood River. For more information call 261-4073.

THE CIRCLE OF HOPE, a 12-step healing program for anyone whose life is affected by HIV infection meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the King's House on North 66th Street in Belleville. For more information, call 234-0291.

PULMONARY SUPPORT GROUP, for persons with diagnosed lung condition, 11 a.m. to noon every Wednesday in 4-Doctors Solarium, St. Elizabeth Medical Center,

798-3019.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. every Wednesday, 2116 Club, 2116 Edison, Granite City, (800) 307-6600.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m. every Wednesday, St. Elizabeth School's Noah's Ark Day Care, Pontoon Road, Granite City. The meetings are closed except for the last Wednesday of the month.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. every Thursday, and noon and 8 p.m. every Friday at 2116 Edison, Granite City, (800) 307-6600.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m., every Thursday, Presbyterian Church, Mitchell, (800) 307-6600.

AL-ANON, 9:30 a.m. every Monday, 2116 Edison (side door) in Granite City, Call 463-2429.

AL-ANON, 8 p.m., every Tuesday, St. John United Church, 2901 Nameoki Road, Granite City, 463-2429.

AL-ANON ADULT CHILDREN meets at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., in the Kettler Center Conference Room A. Call 463-2429 for more information.

AL-ANON, 7 p.m. every Thursday, St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., in the Kettler Center Day Care room C. Call 463-2429.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m. every Saturday and 1:30 and 8 p.m. every Sunday at 2116 Club, 2116 Edison, Granite City, (800) 307-6600.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m. every Sunday, St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Pascal Hall, main floor, Granite City, (800) 307-6600.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (women only), 8 p.m., every Tuesday, Presbyterian Church, Mitchell, (800) 307-6600.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 8 p.m., every Tuesday, St. John United Church, 2901 Nameoki Road, Granite City, 692-8078.

HEREDITARY ATAXIA (a disorder of nerve cells in the spinal cord and cerebellum) SUPPORT GROUP meets the second and fourth Friday of each month. Call Curt Williams, 877-5172, for information.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Seeking recovery, 8 p.m. every Thursday, 2016 Delmar Ave., 24-hour hot-line 398-9409.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Acceptance, 8 p.m. every Saturday, 2016 Delmar Ave., 24-hour hot-line 398-9409.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Live the Steps, 8 p.m. every Sunday, 2016 Delmar Ave., 24-hour hot-line 398-9409.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS open meetings are held at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 2100 Madison Ave., on the following days and times: 8 p.m. Sundays in Pascal Hall; 8 p.m. Tuesdays in the Kettler Center, Room A; 8 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays in the Kettler Center, and 8 p.m. Saturday in Pascal Hall. For more information, call the 24-hour hot-line, 398-9409.

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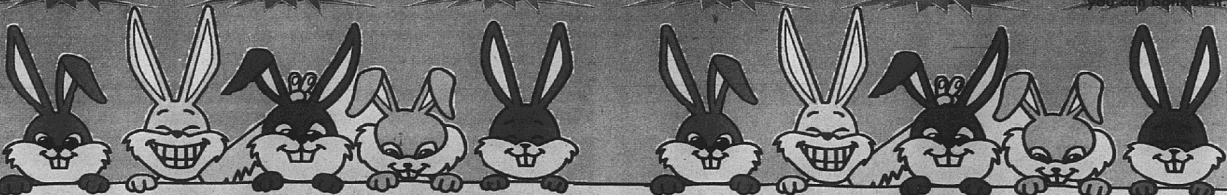
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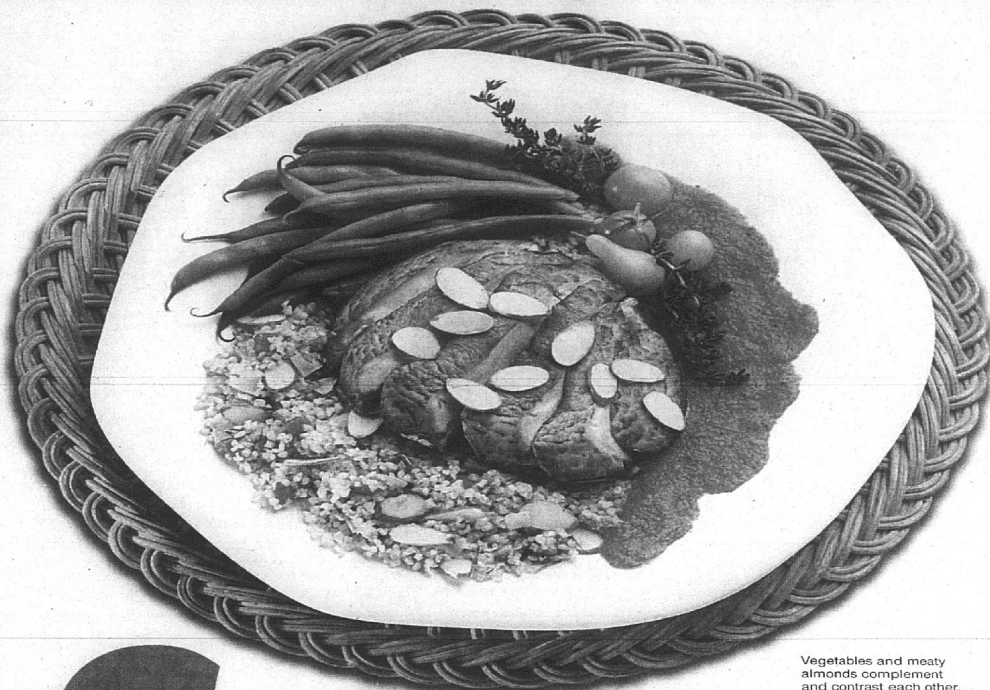
One of the ads on this page contains a clue to the location of the hidden Easter Egg. A new clue will be published each week. The egg is hidden in a public place in the Granite City Journal circulation area. If you think you have found the egg, bring it to the Collinsville Journal at 113 E. Clay, Collinsville. No clues will be given over the phone.

Today's Food



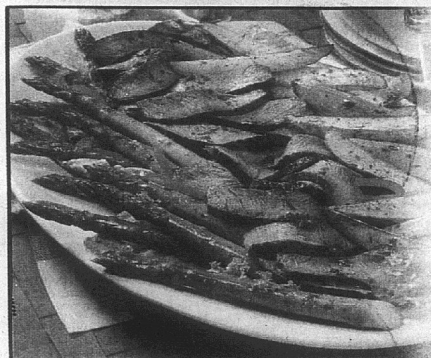
Test Run
Grill them and
stack them

See Page 2



Vegetables and meaty almonds complement and contrast each other, with portobella mushroom centering the plate. Bulgur, green beans and red pepper add to a fresh outlook.

Spring Fever



Warmer weather nudges an innate button that activates taste buds into wanting foods with more color and individual flavors.

Make seasonal run into fresh territory

By Janice Denham
Staff writer

With the calendar past the official beginning of spring and Florida buzzing with vacationers and baseball, a new season is taking hold. Not only is home plate getting a dusting, but dinner plates are ready for a new look, too.

While an inviting aroma from grills wafts by on an unusually warm evening, brighter colors and lighter textures see past stew and chili, grimly monochromatic from long cooking. The new season of foods freshens the palate. No matter how many years they form steppingstones away from winter, they spring forth

with an alternative invitation that welcomes the winter-weary.

It starts with wholesome fresh vegetables such as green beans, mushrooms and asparagus. Even beef soup holds new vegetables and flavors, like one with ginger for an Asian touch.

In a saucepan, simply simmer cubed potato (2 large), sliced carrot (1 large) and 1/2 cup chopped onion with 2 tablespoons minced ginger root in 2 cans of beef broth until the vegetables are tender.

Meanwhile, stir-fry about 1 pound boneless beef top sirloin steak, cut 1/2-inch thick, in a skillet.

See SPRING Inside TODAY'S FOOD Page 2



Stalking Asparagus

Asparagus has a regal reputation. King Louis XIV of France built greenhouses for a year-round supply of this vegetable he fancied. Shoppers in search of asparagus today find large stalks, as well as thin ones, can be tender. Its color should be bright green, its tips compact, closed and firm. Store it, loosely wrapped and moist (not wet), in a refrigerator vegetable bin. Tips can be freshened by soaking in cold water.

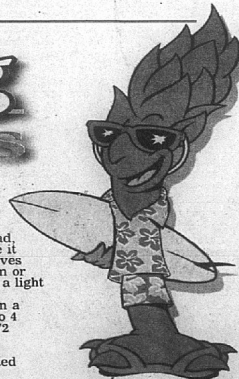
To cook, rinse the stalks in cool water, snap off the stiff bottom end of each stalk and steam, boil, microwave or prepare another way. Unlike Greeks and Romans who used asparagus to alleviate bee stings and toothaches 2,000 years ago, today's asparagus connoisseur eats it as a spring delight.

It cooks quickly to tender-crisp. For 1 pound of trimmed asparagus, boiling takes 3 to 5 minutes, microwaving whole spears on high power takes 6 to 9

minutes. Bundled asparagus — with its lower, thicker half covered with water and the pan covered — can be done in 5 to 7 minutes.

It is delicious plain or with dip. It can be stir-fried, added to pasta or become part of a salad, omelet, pizza or casserole. For a topping, squeeze it with lemon juice and sprinkle with herbs, like chives or tarragon; dottop its top with low-fat sour cream or yogurt, or top cooked spears with rice vinegar or a light vinaigrette dressing.

For a special meal, place cooked asparagus in a shallow buttered or greased baking dish. Melt 2 to 4 tablespoons butter and add 1/4 cup white wine, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Pour the mixture over the asparagus and sprinkle the top with 1/3 cup parmesan cheese. Bake in a preheated 425 degree oven about 15 minutes.



Food & Nutrition

Wise Ways

Detour on road to nutritious eating needs fresh approach.
INSIDE

Heart-y Bites

Flaxseed's history catches up with its healthy image.
INSIDE

Blue Ribbon Cook

Spring's green theme extends to winning dessert.
INSIDE

Micro Raves

Casserole that starts with uncooked pasta is first line of offense for busy-day cooking.
INSIDE

Lively Taste

Pimento is an old favorite for adding zesty color and flavor. For a pantry meal, cook 1 small onion, chopped, in 2 tablespoons oil until transparent. Add 2 cans (5 ounces) chunky chicken (drained and flaked); 1 can (8-1/2 ounces) green peas (drained); 3 cups cooked rice; 1 jar (2 ounces) diced pimento; and 1 teaspoon pepper. Stir well. Heat thoroughly. Makes 6 servings; 250 calories, 8 g fat, 42 mg cholesterol and 119 mg sodium each.

Health & Fitness

Medicine Chest

Hypercholesterolemia (high cholesterol) will become a significant health risk factor in the next few years. Lowering LDL, the bad cholesterol, and raising the good HDL cholesterol can prevent second heart attacks. It also is beneficial in people who never have had a heart attack. It is best to set a goal of having cholesterol checked a minimum of every five years.

Kids' Cuisine

Family time, particularly for dinner, is difficult to find as children get older. Families who make eating together a priority usually respect and enjoy their time together. It also means everyone is more likely to eat a greater variety of foods and more traditionally-sized portions. If scheduling an evening meal together is impossible, try a weekend lunch or brunch. This can lead to another activity, like walking or biking, after the meal. Or, do it in reverse and encourage a game on 20 square at the basketball hoop before washing hands for dinner. Reserve disagreements and family meetings for after dinner. Adults should set good examples with what they eat and what they say at the table. This is a good time for everyone to drink milk and eat a vegetable.

Big Fat Tip

Peanut butter wads up fat quickly, with 8 grams per tablespoon. However, a little adds lots of flavor. Add it to crisp rice squares in place of margarine for texture, as well as its familiar taste. In a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat, cook 1/4 cup brown sugar and 1/3 cup light corn syrup until the mixture boils and sugar dissolves. Remove it from heat and stir in 1/4 cup peanut butter. Add 4 cups crisp rice cereal. Stir until well coated. Using a piece of waxed paper over fingers, press the mixture evenly into a 13-by-9-inch pan. Cool before cutting in 24 squares. Each square has 48 calories, 1 g protein, 1 g fat, 8 g carbohydrate and 17 mg sodium.

Future Shop

If there were an Oscar for buying the most Girl Scout cookies, Edy's Grand Ice Cream probably would get it. Edy's will crumble 24.5 million Girl Scout cookies into its Girl Scout samosa cookie ice cream, Girl Scout thin mint ice cream and Grand Light version of thin mints ice cream. Scouting receives about 30 cents from the sale of each gallon of those limited-edition flavors through May. Thin mints are the top seller for the Girl Scouts, with samosas (caramel delights in parts of the country) a close second.

Today's Food

Pancakes flip in various mixes for long or short stacks

Variety is the pancake slice of life, tasters found when they tested different brands and types of mixes.

Fast Shake (89 cents) and Bisquick shake 'n pour (\$1.19) were the quickest and easiest. Each is

TEST RUN

designed for a small household. All that is needed is water and a shake for the pre-measured mix.

All products were priced at Dierbergs.

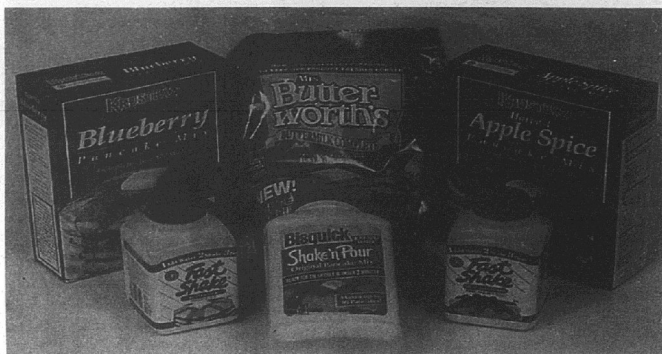
Krusteaz "complete" pancake mix, which also needed only water to prepare, was tested in blueberry and apple flavors (\$1.99). It is packaged traditionally in boxes for multiple uses.

Mrs. Butterworth pancakes (\$1.99) also was tested in new packaging, a pouch with a recloseable zip closure.

Fast Shake came in blueberry and buttermilk flavors.

The tester of the blueberry pancakes said her immediate response was "fun." The second was "quick." The package has a mark on the side so measuring water is not necessary.

"From the time I walked through the kitchen door



Pancake mixes are sized for a big or small family, as well as those who like them flavored.

this morning until I finished my plate, it was only 30 minutes — to cook, serve and eat," she said.

The mixing process, while easy and quick, left a few lumps she had to dislodge. She thought this wasn't too bad though, because she usually mixes the batter until it is too smooth. However, they were light and fluffy, tasty and had a "real" feel to them. They

cooked to the seven (4-inch) pancakes promised. "They were more blueberry flavored than with blueberries. There were some little pieces," she said.

The tester of Fast Shake buttermilk pancake mix compared them to Bisquick shake 'n pour original mix. "They were both simple and tasty. Fast Shake cooked to a golden flavor,

while Bisquick tasted typically like a successful Bisquick product with a little more flavor than the Fast Shake," she said.

The Bisquick product is expected to make more pancakes than Fast Shake. While she makes homemade pancakes regularly to use higher-fiber ingredients, she would buy these products for individual occasions and was quick to

buy one for a "care package" for a single son away from home. She thought the individual portioning was meant for the person who does not make pancakes regularly, so would not mind the extra packaging for a small portion.

One tester of Bisquick shake 'n pour buttermilk variety found they matched his novice level of cooking. "The serving size — I made nine pancakes — was perfect for my appetite. Making the mixture was extremely easy and the batter was smooth. Cleanup was easy and mess-free," he said.

He would recommend and use them again. His only complaint, which he called minor, was the batter did not bubble to signal they were ready to be flipped.

Mrs. Butterworth pancake mix also made "very flavorful pancakes enjoyed by the entire crew," the tester said. She shared them for a dinner treat with her sons and mother-in-law.

Following the directions, she found the batter a little thinner than her typical style, but a little extra mix fluffed them. They browned well and made the number anticipated.

Initially she looked forward to using the new packaging, but decided it would be better for camping or other travel plans, rather than home use.

"Initially I thought I would like the zipper package. Though it does sit nicely on a shelf and is small enough to be loaded up for travel, it was actually difficult to get the mix out without dumping some on the counter," she said.

The Krusteaz mixes received generally high ratings in their home test.

"My daughter put low-calorie blueberry syrup on the blueberry ones and pronounced them 'wonderful,'" the tester said.

They were light with good flavor. She called them "a hit" at her house. The only drawback was the blueberries sank in the batter.

The apple variety of Krusteaz had all the ingredients the tester's family enjoys in pancakes.

"We add a bit of cinnamon to our usual pancakes, so this was extra easy with only adding water to the mix. Having bits of apple and that sweet flavor and aroma while they cooked gave us expectations that were easily fulfilled," he said.

Canadian flaxseed is one grain to gain

By Cheryl Houston and Susan Beaton-Buckley
Correspondents

The saying, "Everything old is new again," seems especially true

HEARTY BITES

when the subject is nutty-tasting flaxseed. Flaxseed is a grain widely grown across the Canadian prairies. It is harvested for a variety of food purposes, including baking.

Flaxseed in human diets dates back thousands of years. In 850 B.C., Hippocrates, often called the "father of medicine," was reported to use flaxseed to relieve intestinal discomfort.

Rich in soluble and insoluble fiber and polyunsaturated fats, flaxseed is touted for a wide range of health benefits. It is said to lower blood cholesterol, relieve constipation, help control blood sugar levels and reduce the risk of certain types of cancer.

Whole flaxseed adds a mild, nutty taste to foods. To enrich oatmeal or pancakes, add up to 1/4 cup whole seeds per cup of oats or flour. In bread or muffin recipes, add up to 1/3 cup flaxseed for every cup of flour. It can be sprinkled directly on cereal, yogurt or salad.

Ground flaxseed or flaxseed meal may be preferred over whole flaxseed for its texture. Because of a stronger aroma and heavier baked product, it is best to use the ground form in dark whole-grain bread, buckwheat pancakes and fruit-flavored muffins.

Just use 1/4 cup ground seeds in this type of recipe in place of the same amount of flour, adding an extra tablespoon liquid to the batter or dough if necessary.

Due to a naturally high oil content, flaxseed can replace all the oil or shortening in a recipe's ingredients. Substitute at a 3-to-1 ratio. That is, if a recipe calls for 1/3 cup cooking oil, use 1 cup flaxseed

meal as the replacement.

Whole flaxseed, available in most health food stores, is preferred over pre-ground varieties because they spoil quickly. Store seeds in an airtight container in the refrigerator, then use a coffee mill to grind the quantity needed.

For more information about flaxseed, contact the Flax Council of Canada, 465-167 Lombard Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, or look up its web site www.flaxcouncil.ca. This tasty banana bread recipe is adapted from "A Taste of Flax Cookbook for Two."

Registered dietitian Cheryl Houston is a member of the nutrition committee of the American Heart Association, Greater St. Louis Division. Susan Beaton-Buckley is a senior-level dietetic student at Fontbonne College.

FLAX BANANA BREAD

1-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 cup ground flaxseed
3/4 cup sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
2 eggs
1/3 cup unsweetened applesauce
2 or 3 very ripe bananas, mashed (1 cup)
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease loaf pan.

In large bowl, mix together flour, flaxseed, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt.

In second large bowl, beat together eggs and applesauce. Add dry ingredients and banana alternately to combined eggs and applesauce, stirring until dry ingredients are moistened.

Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven 55 to 60 minutes.

Makes 16 slices; 200 calories, 5 g fat, 4 g protein, 36 g carbohydrate, 146 mg sodium and 34 mg cholesterol each.

Spring

Continued from page 1.

chopped asparagus to the broth and simmer 2 to 3 minutes longer. Stir in cooked beef and heat just until hot.

Steamed whole green beans and thin stalks of asparagus can be served with dip. Creamy horseradish dip augments stronger flavors, like beef and earthy mushrooms. Or serve vegetables on the side, like in these dishes.

Potatoes can be roasted until their edges brown with the flavor of herbs. Served with a green vegetable and pan-seared beef sirloin steak, individual elements are served on salad greens and drizzled with more herb dressing. The impact is familiar meat-and-potatoes style, but fresh like salad with fresh green vegetables.

Americans are learning to love a variety of centerpieces on plates.

One time it is beef, an

all-American favorite. Naturally lean and intentionally well-trimmed, a 3-ounce cooked serving of top sirloin has 6 grams fat and 76 milligrams cholesterol. Cuts with the name "loin" or "round" are leanest.

Another time, Americans chose other protein foods, such as cholesterol-free almonds, which provide the same kind of "good" fat that olive oil has.

Moving the focus lets other foods, like portobella mushrooms and bulgur wheat, become stars. In combination, they boost fiber. Bulgur — steamed, dried and cracked wheat berries — cooks like brown rice with a nutty flavor.

For more information about almonds, look up the www.almondsarein.com web site, which provides recipes and information about almonds and the DASH — Dietary Approaches to Stop

Hypertension — Diet. For more information

and recipes for potatoes, see www.idahopotato.com.

ASPARAGUS, BEEF AND POTATO SALAD

1-1/4 lb. boneless beef top sirloin steak, 1 inch thick
2 large russet potatoes (about 8 oz. each)
1/2 cup non-creamy Caesar dressing
2 tbsp. mixed chopped fresh herbs, such as parsley, chives, thyme, basil and/or dill
Salt and pepper, if desired
12 oz. fresh asparagus spears, trimmed
6 cups mixed salad greens
1 small red bell pepper, cut in thin strips, or 1 small red onion, cut in thin wedges

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Lightly coat baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray.

Cut each potato lengthwise in 8 wedges. Brush cut surfaces with 1 tablespoon dressing.

In small bowl, combine remaining dressing with herbs.

Place potato cut-side down on baking sheet. Bake in preheated oven 20 minutes. Using spatula, turn over potatoes. Bake 10 minutes longer or until tender and golden brown. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

Place asparagus in large nonstick skillet with boiling water to cover. Simmer 3 to 5 minutes until tender-crisp. Drain.

Wipe skillet dry and heat over medium heat. Cook steak 15 to 20 minutes for medium-rare to medium doneness, turning occasionally.

Remove steak from pan. Brush with 1 tablespoon reserved dressing mixture. Let stand 5 minutes.

Carve steak in thin slices. Arrange greens, beef, potatoes, asparagus and bell pepper on platter. Drizzle with remaining dressing mixture.

Makes 4 servings.

ALMOND-OATMEAL ENERGY COOKIES

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
3/4 cup sugar
1 egg
1/4 cup frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
1/2 tsp. almond extract
1-1/2 cups uncooked oats
3/4 cup flour
1 cup sliced almonds, toasted
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
Grated peel of 1 orange

In bowl, cream butter and sugar until blended. Beat in egg, juice concentrate and almond extract to blend thoroughly. Beat in oats, flour, almonds, baking soda, salt and orange peel. Blend thoroughly.

Divide dough in half and place on separate sheets of waxed paper. Form each into log 9 inches long. Roll lightly in paper. Refrigerate at least 2 hours until firm.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Slice dough less than 1/2 inch thick to make 24 slices. Space about 1 inch apart on baking sheets. Bake in center of preheated oven 10 to 12 minutes until golden brown.

Cool cookies completely on rack. Store in airtight container up to 1 week.

Makes 48 cookies; 63 calories, 4 g fat, 8 mg cholesterol, 58 mg sodium, 7 g carbohydrate, 1 g protein and 1 g dietary fiber each.

Note: Dough can be refrigerated up to 2 weeks to bake as desired. Promptly rewrap and refrigerate unused dough.

RANCH CHICKEN
In large bowl
1 package (16 oz.)
greens, 2 cups
chicken breast
6-ounce package

WHOLE CHICKEN
BREA

U.S.D.A. BONELESS
CHUCK STEAK

BONELESS BEEF STEW

PORK S RIBS...

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SWEET ONIONS

RED S GRAP

RANCH TACO CHICKEN SALAD
In large bowl, toss together 1 package (16 ounces) salad greens, 2 cups cooked chicken breast strips (two 6-ounce packages

Southwestern-seasoned, cooked chicken strips, if desired), and ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese.

At serving time, top with 1 cup ranch dressing (any type) and 1 cup chunky

salsa. If desired, top with crushed tortilla chips, serve in taco salad shells or roll mixture in flour tortillas.

Makes six (2-cup) main-dish salad servings.

Casseroles pull easy duty

By Kathy Hanewinkel
Correspondent

Casseroles are the ultimate dish in a busy cook's repertoire. Making them in a microwave oven is no exception.

MICRO RAVES

The goal is to have them quick and carefree for preparation. The result is no extra dishes to clean because everything cooks at one time. Those are the recipes I share.

My favorite is a lasagna in which the noodles cook along with the sauce and cheese. When adapting conventional casserole recipes, there are a couple tips. One is to add enough liquid for the dry noodles to absorb them. Also, remember that herbs and other seasonings intensify if the dish will be reheated, so it is wise to start with only half of the original amounts.

It takes time for dried pasta or rice to absorb the liquid, so do not rush the dish too much. Following a trustworthy recipe can yield exactly the same results every time, a bonus of microwave cooking, because the heat and length of cooking are constant.

My easy tuna casserole can be made with broth or white wine instead of water. A family that likes more vegetables can use a 16-ounce can of them.

One of my students came

up with the all-at-once spaghetti recipe. She deserves an A.

Letting the dish sit a few minutes after cooking helps intensify flavors and ensures absorption of liquid into the noodles.

Like with many dishes where flavors are meant to merge, both are excellent reheated in a microwave oven the second day.

Home economist Kathy Hanewinkel specializes in microwave cooking.

Add soup, tuna, vegetables, water chestnuts, salt and pepper. Stir. Cook, covered, on high power 6 minutes, stirring once, until heated through. Top with chips before serving. Makes 4 servings.

ALL-AT-ONCE SPAGHETTI

- 1 tbsp. butter or margarine
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 lb. ground beef chuck
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1 can (16 oz.) tomato sauce
- 1½ cups water
- ½ tsp. oregano
- ½ tsp. basil
- 4 oz. uncooked spaghetti
- Grated parmesan cheese

In 2-quart casserole, microwave onion and butter on high power 2 to 3 minutes until onion is tender.

Add ground beef. Microwave on high power, stirring once, 3 to 5 minutes until meat is no longer pink. Drain grease.

Add salt, pepper, tomato sauce, water, oregano and basil. Microwave on high power 4 minutes.

Break spaghetti in half. Stir into sauce. Microwave, covered, 15 to 20 minutes on high power until spaghetti is tender, stirring twice during cooking time.

KATHY'S EASY TUNA CASSEROLE

- 2 to 3 cups uncooked wide (or medium) egg noodles
- 1 cup water (or part of liquid from vegetables, broth or white wine)
- 1 can (10½ oz.) cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can (6 oz.) tuna, drained
- 1 can (8 oz.) vegetables of choice, drained
- ½ can (8 oz. size) water chestnuts, chopped (optional)
- Salt and white pepper
- Crushed potato chips

In large casserole, combine noodles and water. Cover loosely with waxed paper or loose-fitting lid. Microwave on high power 5 to 10 minutes, stirring every 1 to 2 minutes, until noodles are soft and liquid is absorbed.

Green theme extends to pie

Linda Vail, Ballwin, is this week's winner of dinner certificates to the Pasta House Co. for Coconut Praline Dream Pie.

BLUE RIBBON COOK

The praline layer between the baked crust and creamy filling gives this pie sweet contrast in texture. Coconut is part of the pie filling and offers contrast on the top, too. Vail gathered the recipe as she was "reading" cookbooks one day, a favorite hobby.

A single recipe postmarked by March 31

can be sent to: Spring Splurge Contest, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis 63131. It also can be e-mailed to westnews@primary.net.

COCONUT PRALINE DREAM PIE

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- ½ cup margarine
- ½ cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1 (9 inch) deep-dish pie crust, baked, cooled
- 2 envelopes whipped topping mix
- 2¼ cups cold milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla

2 pkg. (4 servings each) instant pistachio pudding mix
1½ cups flaked coconut
In small saucepan, heat pecans, margarine and brown sugar until margarine and sugar melt and mixture comes to boil. Boil exactly 30 seconds. Spread on bottom of baked crust. Let cool.
Using electric mixer on high speed in large bowl, beat whipped topping, 1 cup milk and vanilla about 6 minutes or until topping thickens and forms peaks.

Spoon filling into pie crust. Refrigerate at least 4 hours until set.

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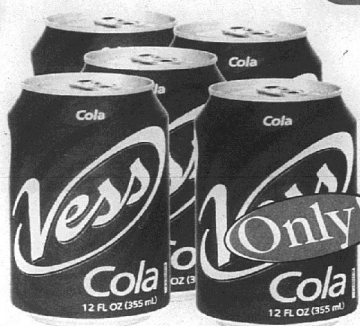
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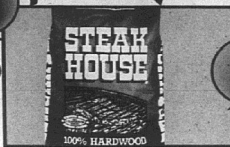
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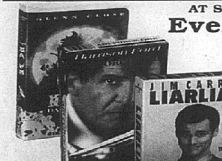


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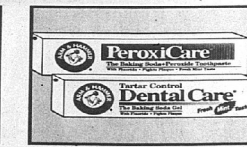
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MUSHROOM, CELERY OR CHICKEN
REDUCED FAT
Campbell's
Creamy Soups

4/295
10.75-OZ. CAN

BEEF, CHICKEN, OR WITH
ITALIAN HERB
Swanson
Broth

89¢
14-14.5 OZ. CAN



IN OIL OR WATER
Starkist Chunk
Light Tuna

3/195
6-OZ. CAN



Quick Meal

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Bird's Eye
Chicken Voila

2/499
20-OZ. BAG



Great Values!

ON TOP HUNT-WESSON
PRODUCTS



Hunt's Snack
Pack Pudding

99¢
4-PACK



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Peter Pan
Peanut Butter

2/\$3
17.6-18 OZ. JAR



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Healthy Choice
Soup

3/395
15-OZ. CAN



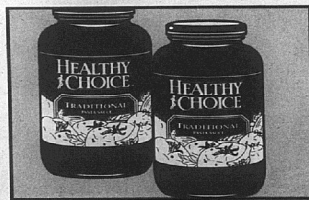
ASSORTED VARIETIES
Hunt's Spaghetti
Sauce

97¢
25.75-26 OZ. CAN



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Wesson Oil

199
48-OZ. BTL.



ALFREDO SAUCE OR
Healthy Choice
Spaghetti Sauce

189
16-26 OZ. JAR



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Hunt's Barbecue
Sauce

79¢
18-OZ. BTL.



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Swiss Miss
Pudding

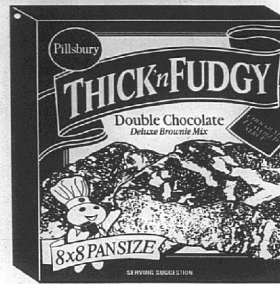
99¢
4-PACK

New Meal Ideas From Pillsbury And *Shop 'n Save*®



ASSORTED VARIETIES
**Pillsbury
Cake Mix**

79¢
18.25-
19.75
OZ. PKG.



ASSORTED VARIETIES
**Pillsbury
Brownie Mix**

99¢
15.5-
19.5
OZ. PKG.



ASSORTED VARIETIES
**Pillsbury Ready
To Spread Frosting**

119
15-16
OZ. PKG.



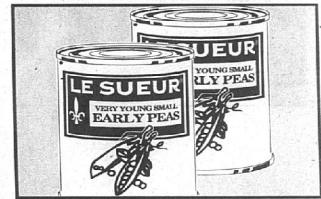
**Pillsbury
Angel Food Cake**

2/\$3
16-OZ.
PKG.



**Pillsbury
Pizza Crust**

159
10-OZ. PKG.



**Green Giant
Lesueur Peas**

79¢
15-OZ.
CAN



FRENCH LOAF, SOFT BREADSTICKS OR
**Pillsbury
Dinner Rolls**

3/399
11-11.3
OZ. PKG.



ORIGINAL OR REDUCED FAT
**Pillsbury
Cinnamon Rolls**

3/399
11-12 OZ.
PKG.



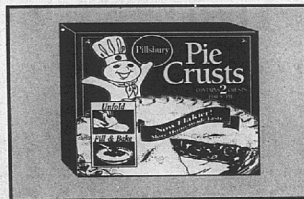
ORANGE OR CARAMEL
**Pillsbury
Danish Rolls**

3/399
11-12 OZ.
PKG.



ORIGINAL OR REDUCED FAT
**Pillsbury
Crescent Rolls**

2/\$3
8-OZ. PKG.



ALL READY
Pillsbury Pie Crust

169
15-OZ. PKG.



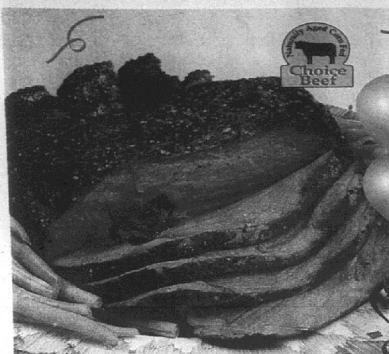
ASSORTED VARIETIES
**Pillsbury
Grand Biscuits**

3/399
16-17.3
OZ. PKG.



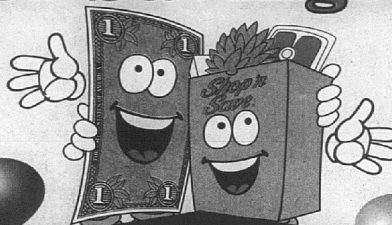
SELECTED VARIETIES
**Progresso
Soup**

99¢
19-OZ.
CAN



USDA CHOICE CORN FED BEEF
Boneless Bottom
Round Roast

Celebrate 20 Years of Savings!



1979 ♦ 1999

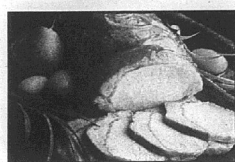


ALL NATURAL
Hudson Chicken

137
lb.

It's Our Birthday!
Thanks For Shopping
and Saving With Us!

25% OFF
OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICE



FRESH
Whole
Pork Tenderloin

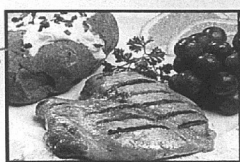
259
lb.

ALL VARIETIES
Hillshire Farms
Smoked Sausage... **179**
1-LB. PKG.

LINKS OR ROLLS
Farmland
Pork Sausage... **4/\$5**
1-LB. PKG.

PRE-COOKED
Louis Rich
Chicken Strips... **2/\$4**
1-LB. PKG.

REGULAR OR CHEESE
Louis Rich
Turkey Franks... **99¢**
1-LB. PKG.



TENDERBIRD FROZEN
Boneless Skinless
Chicken Breast

589
3 POUND
BAG

FRESH
Perdue
Ground Turkey... **219**
30-OZ. PKG.

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Banquet Family
Entrees... **199**
1-LB. PKG.

REGULAR OR LITE
Ballpark
Franks... **2/\$3**
1-LB. PKG.

SLICED
Farmland
Bacon... **179**
1-LB. PKG.



SEAFOOD DEPARTMENT
FLASH FROZEN
Catfish
Nuggets

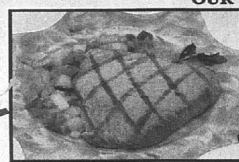
159
lb.

Circle A
Beef Patties... **399**
1-LB. PKG.

SALAMI OR
Louis Rich
Turkey Bologna... **139**
1-LB. PKG.

Louis Rich
Ground Turkey... **99¢**
1-LB. PKG.

USDA CHOICE CORN FED BEEF
FAMILY PACK
Eye of
Round Steak... **279**
1-LB. PKG.



SEAFOOD DEPARTMENT
Fresh Yellowfin
Tuna Steaks

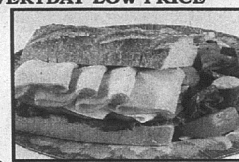
399
lb.

SEAFOOD DEPARTMENT
FARM RAISED FRESH
Steelhead
Salmon Fillets... **499**
1-LB. PKG.

SEAFOOD DEPARTMENT
29-35 COUNT
Shell-on
Shrimp... **599**
1-LB. PKG.

BAKERY DEPARTMENT
WHOLE WHEAT, OATMEAL
RAISIN OR PEANUT BUTTER
Fresh Baked
Cookies... **299**
1-LB. PKG.

BAKERY DEPARTMENT
Fresh Baked
Italian Bread... **79¢**
1-LB. PKG.



DELI DEPARTMENT
REGULAR OR SMOKED
Jennie-O
Turkey Breast

299
lb.

DELI DEPARTMENT
GARLIC OR MISOGLI
Emmer's
Roast Beef... **499**
1-LB. PKG.

DELI DEPARTMENT
Butterball
Turkey Pastrami... **299**
1-LB. PKG.

DELI DEPARTMENT
SLICED OR ROPED
Provel... **399**
1-LB. PKG.

BAKERY DEPARTMENT
Hamburger or
Hot Dog Buns... **99¢**
1-LB. PKG.



WASHINGTON STATE
Fuji, Braeburn or
Jonagold Apples

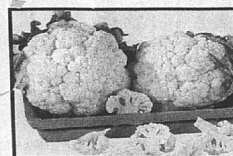
188
5-LB.
BAG

113-COUNT SIZE
Sunkist
Navel Oranges... **6/98**
1-LB. PKG.

CALIFORNIA
Red-Ripe
Strawberries... **188**
1-LB. PKG.

48-COUNT SIZE
Florida
Red Grapefruit... **5/98**
1-LB. PKG.

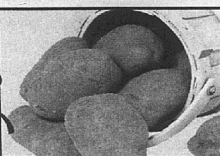
Dole Special
Salad Blends... **178**
1-LB. PKG.



12-COUNT SIZE
Snow White
Cauliflower

98¢
EACH

Try These Exotic Varieties!
NOT AVAILABLE AT ALL STORES
FRESH
Sno Peas... **198**
1-LB. PKG.
FRESH
Napa... **98¢**
1-LB. PKG.
FRESH
Gallon... **148**
1-LB. PKG.
FRESH
Radicchio... **248**
1-LB. PKG.
FRESH
Cilantro... **98¢**
1-LB. PKG.



U.S. NO. 1
Russet Baker
Potatoes

38¢
lb.

Mann's
Vegetable Medley... **198**
1-LB. PKG.

Terry Farms
Mushrooms... **98¢**
1-LB. PKG.

PEELED
Bolthouse
Baby Carrots... **188**
1-LB. PKG.

24-CT. SIZE
Fresh
Artichokes... **2/98**
1-LB. PKG.



12-PACK. SPRITE
Coca-Cola Classic
or Diet Coke

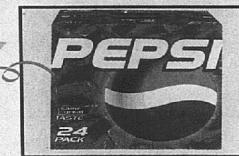
2/488
12-OZ.
CANS

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Nabisco
Ritz Crackers... **2/495**
1-LB. PKG.

ASSORTED VARIETIES
SWEET CRISPERS OR
Nabisco
Air Crisps... **3/495**
1-LB. PKG.

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Nabisco Chips... **2/395**
1-LB. PKG.

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Mt. Olive
Pickles... **129**
1-LB. PKG.



24-CAN CUBE
Pepsi, Diet Pepsi
or Mountain Dew

589
12-OZ.
CANS

ALL VARIETIES
Pepsi
Products... **88¢**
1-LB. PKG.

SELECTED VARIETIES
Lay's or
Wavy Lay's... **2/288**
1-LB. PKG.

ORIGINAL UNBALLED
OR FAT FREE
Zesta Saltines... **2/298**
1-LB. PKG.

ASSORTED VARIETIES
Vienna
Fingers... **228**
1-LB. PKG.

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Automotive

Classifieds

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Real Estate, Page 9

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Toyota SUV gets V-8 engine



By Tom Strongman

The Land Cruiser is Toyota's first vehicle to be powered by a V-8 engine. The sport-utility vehicle provides a blend of all-around performance, technical innovation and passenger comfort and convenience. The fifth-generation Land Cruiser debuted in late 1998. It is larger, heavier, more solid and more powerful than its predecessor. Yet it delivers improved fuel efficiency, lower emissions and quicker acceleration. It is longer and wider, with better aerodynamics and major improvements in towing and cargo capacities. The 4.7-liter, 32-valve, dual-overhead-cam V-8 is based on the engine used in the Lexus

LS/GS 400 series. The new engine was designed to provide a level of superior performance, especially in the area of low- and mid-range torque, or pulling power. The engine produces 230 horsepower and powers the Land Cruiser from zero to 60 mph in 9.5 seconds. Fuel economy ratings for the V-8 are 13 mpg in city driving and 16 mpg on the highway. The Land Cruiser's chassis has been redesigned to improve frame strength, reduce flex and improve overall structural rigidity. The redesign has resulted in improved ride comfort, both on and off-road. The Land Cruiser features a full-time, two-speed four-wheel-drive system linked to a four-

ter differential is locked. The new system determines road conditions according to changes in vehicle acceleration and road roughness. As road roughness increases, ABS influence decreases. The system also takes into account the slope of the road. As the slope increases, ABS influence decreases. The system is designed to enhance off-road braking performance, allowing ABS control on poor traction surfaces while avoiding early activation on steep slopes. The Land Cruiser's interior was redesigned for 1998 with special emphasis on comfort, roominess, utility and convenience. The interior length and width were increased for improved

passenger comfort and cargo storage. Door openings were enlarged for easier entry and exit, and vertical space for the luggage area was increased to improve the ease of loading and unloading cargo. Cup holders are provided front and rear, and an optional rear climate-control system is available. An overhead console offers three storage boxes plus a compartment for sunglasses or a garage door opener. Pockets are provided in front and rear door trims, and there are separate compartments for tools, jack and first aid kit. Safety features include driver and front passenger air bags; head rests; and three-point seat belts with pretensioners. Standard equipment includes heated, power adjustable front seats; reclining, split/folding second-row seats; power windows, door locks and heated outside mirrors; automatic climate control system with air filter; AM/FM/cassette/CD stereo; 12-volt power outlets; security system; cruise control; automatic on/off headlights with daytime running lights and integrated fog lights; and outside temperature gauge. Available options include power tilt/slide sun roof; locking rear differential system; leather seating surfaces; third seat with power swing-out rear windows; and rear climate control system. The standard warranty is for 36 months or 36,000 miles. Additional 60-month limited warranties cover the powertrain for 60,000 miles and corrosion perforation with no mileage limitation.

Auto industry is big business

By Rick Stoff

The auto industry is big business all over America, and especially in Michigan, where auto employees are expected to receive nearly \$1 billion in bonuses this year. Comerica Bank, headquartered in Detroit, has estimated that 260,000 auto employees in Michigan will be eligible for \$900 million in bonuses, up 31.2 percent over 1998. All that additional income, boosted by those mysterious multiplier effects, is expected to generate \$1.94 billion in

economic activity.

Cost reduction is the biggest challenge facing automotive engineers and designers, according to a survey conducted by DuPont Automotive and the Society of American Engineers. Pollution control and safety issues also are growing in significance. Cost reduction was named as the industry's leading challenge by 31 percent of responding engineers and designers. It was the fifth year the survey found costs were at the top of the designers' minds. Emissions and safety regulations both were listed as the leading concerns of 13 percent of those surveyed. Emissions received 62 percent more mentions than in 1998, while safety gained 50 percent more interest.

For the first time since 1953 a new Indian motorcycle has hit the street. The old Indian company built its last machines 46 years ago. A recently reorganized company, which joined several interests holding descendant Indian trademarks and businesses, introduced a new Indian Chief model in Daytona, Fla., during the annual "Bike Week" festivities in late February and early March. The company has headquarters in Gilroy, Calif. In years past a lot of junk was sold to new-car buyers. Not any more. Quality and engineering standards have risen to lofty levels, and most buyers have to look really hard to find a new vehicle that will immediately begin falling apart. Competition among auto manufactur-

ers is undeniably tough now, so any small marketing edge can mean additional tens of thousands of car or truck sales. One of those edges is brand image. That's why most car companies are involved in racing and other activities that build affinities between their companies and products and potential customers. Some do that job so well their customers identify deeply with the company, and even become proud of it. One of the brand names overflowing with brand image is Ferrari. According to Business Week magazine, Ferrari sold 3,637 cars last year and earned \$24 million in profit. About 10 percent of the profit was derived from sales of licensed Ferrari clothing and other goods. Maserati signed a contract last year making it the exclusive Ferrari toy maker.

Points & Plugs

\$900 million in bonuses, up 31.2 percent over 1998. All that additional income, boosted by those mysterious multiplier effects, is expected to generate \$1.94 billion in

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94 Mercury Cougar XR7
Auto, Air, Miles in the 40's, Red, Full White Top, Luggage Rack, Alum Wheels, Sharp.

97 Pontiac Grand Prix
4dr, Auto, Air, Black w/Black Cloth Int., Like New, Only 35,000 Miles

96 Club Wagon
15 Passenger, Sharp Van, Auto, Air, One Of A Kind

98 Impala SS
Blue Gm w/Gray Leather, Buckets & Caddy, New Tires, Only 40,000 Miles, Like New, Won't Last 2 to Choose From

97 Suburban 4x4
White, Gray Cloth, Tachometer, Cass, PW, PL, Tr, Cruise, Dual Air & Heat, TV/CP, Original Wheels, Running Boards, Only 38K Miles, Price to Sell

94 Chevy Silverado 4x4 Ext Cab
Auto, Air, White w/Maroon Cloth Int., PW, PL, Tilt & Cruise

93 Ford E150 Full Size Carriage Conversion Van
Only 81,000 Miles, Van Like New

96 Chevy Tahoe
White, Burgundy Leather, 4dr, 4x4, Only 35,000 Miles

97 Chevy Tahoe LT
4dr, 4WD, Light Blue, Blue Leather, Low Miles

98 GMC Sierra 4x4 Ext Cab 271
3rd dr., Teal w/Tan Cloth, Lots of Factory Warranty Left, 2 to Choose From

96 Safari Explorer Hightop Level 4 Conv
Green, Tan Leather, TV/CP, Dual Air & Heat, Power Seats, Rear Sola, Dutch Door, Only 21K Miles

97 GMC Safari Mini Van
Conversion, PW, PL, Tilt & Cruise, Pre-Wired for TV/ACP, Only 16,000 Miles, Won't Last

96 Chevy Ext Cab 4x4 Pickup W/Conv
Blue & Silver, Blue Leather, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Running Boards, Aluminum Wheels

98 Dodge Durango SLT
V8, 4x4, Black w/ Dove Leather, Only 15,000 Miles, Lots of Factory Warranty Left, Price to Sell

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Olimon Red w/Cloth Top, Matching Int., Still Under Factory Warranty, Low Miles, 3 to Choose From

95 Chevy Impala SS
Black, Gray Leather, 40K Miles, Real Sharp Car, Won't Last

96 Dodge Ram Conversion Truck
Only 16,000 Miles, V8, PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, Factory Warranty Left, Must See

96 GMC Safari Raised Roof Tiera Conv
PW, PL, Tilt, Cruise, TV/ACP, Only 38K Miles

95 Geo Tracker
4 Speed, 4WD, Super nice truck Only \$6,995

94 Park Avenue Ultra
Burgundy, Burgundy Top, Burgundy Leather, Only 32K Mi. One of a Kind

96 LeSabre Limited
Only 40,000 Miles, Like New, One Owner Car

97 Ford Mustang
PW, PL, Tilt & Cruise, Auto, White w/gm Int, Chrome Wheels, Spoiler, Won't Last

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TRANSPORTATION
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EMPLOYMENT
210



NOTICES
400



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700



MERCHANDISE
1700



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2100



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FAX IT: Send your ad directly to our Classified Fax Center at (618) 344-3611. We'll call you back for confirmation.

MAIL IT: Send your ad to: Class, Collinsville Journal, 115 E. Clay St., Collinsville, IL 62234.

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WRITE AN AD

Capture the reader's attention with larger headlines, bold type, and symbols. Tell them you're selling or seeking. Describe what is unique about your item, adding details such as color and condition. Avoid abbreviations that make your ad harder to read and therefore less effective. Include your phone number and the hours you are available. Always include the price; it will increase your response.

CANCEL AN AD

Deadlines for ad cancellation are identical to deadlines for ad placement. You may cancel an ad in person or over the phone. To cancel an ad, phone (618) 344-0264.

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Position offers full time benefits including health, dental and life insurance, pension plan, vacation, sick and holiday. To apply, send resume to or stop in and complete application at:
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1999 OLDS ALERO #9121 Loaded, 3.4L V6, 5 Way P. Seat, Keyless Entry, 48 Miles GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE \$18,244	1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM #9121 Loaded Total List Value \$21,544 LOWEST PRICE \$19,844
1999 BUICK CENTURY #9229 V-6, Loaded Total List Value \$20,354 GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE \$18,944	1999 GMC SUBURBAN SLT #9001 Loaded, All of the Luxury & Power Equipment Total List Value \$41,523 GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE \$35,944

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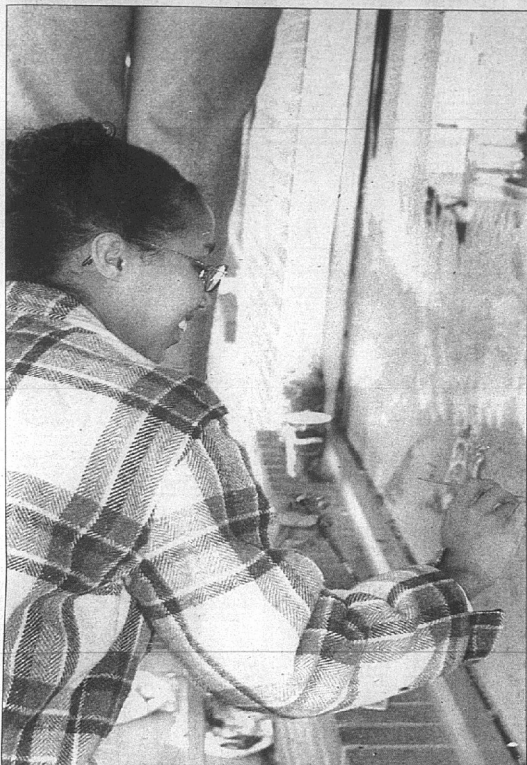
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They're putting together a BAC beach party



Motley crew

BAC photos by Kelly Turner
This group of Belleville Area College art students designed and created a beach mural for Pacific Coast Coffee House in Belleville. Standing in front of their beach creation are, above photo, back row from left, Kelly Rensing of Damiansville, John Veath of Evansville and Steve Moutray of Chester; middle row, Tera Williams of Millstadt, Cieta Fussell of Caseyville, Wade Hampton of Collinsville, Yolanda Hoversten of O'Fallon and Lisa Barthel of Freeburg; front row, Jon Calvarese of Swansea. Pacific Coast Coffee House staff asked BAC's art department faculty for student participation in the project. The students completed their masterpiece in about three hours. In the photo at left Cieta Fussell of Caseyville puts the finishing touches on the window of Pacific Coast Coffee House.



Group effort

Tera Williams, above, of Millstadt outlines a cloud she painted on the coffee house window. At right, Wade Hampton of Collinsville paints a sun on the window of the coffee house. Assisting Hampton are fellow students John Veath, left and Jon Calvarese, who is also shown below applying the finishing touches to the sail of a boat on the window.



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Restored 1910, 2 story with a large front porch accented with stained glass. New wood laminate entry, new carpet, newer A/C and furnace. Must see. #GRD6



3 bedroom ranch with full finished basement, oversized carport with large covered patio, privacy fenced backyard. Newly nice updated kitchen & bath. #GRG7



Brick ranch in Granite City. Newer water heater and A/C. Finished basement, covered ceiling in living room and dining room. Marble sills. #GRL6

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GREAT for growing family! 4.67 acres. Recently remodeled with huge rooms. Close to schools and highways. \$87,500 Granite City E0809 Andrea Mull

EXCELLENT condition. Large fenced yard. Full basement. Lots of storage. 2 car garage. \$36,500 E0830 Debbie Brimer, Granite City

ATTENTION investors: 3 homes side by side for total price of \$72,000. Potential \$125/mo income. Also priced separately in the \$20's. \$72,000. Madison MD-F7T Gerry Eckert

VERY NICE all brick home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths in Arlington Heights. Both bathrooms remodeled in 1998, also the kitchen floor & dishwasher new in '98. Furnace & air approx 3 yrs. old. 26x15 enclosed patio plus an alarm system. E0722 \$23,500 Granite City Judine Lux/Christine Miller

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath home with fabulous main floor family room addition. Updated kitchen cabinets. Cove ceiling and wood burner in living room. Hardwood under carpeting in bedrooms. Possible 4th bedroom in partially finished basement. E0755 \$69,900 Pontoon Beach, Sandy Lane

NEW home only 12 months old. Ready for decorators touch. Country kitchen, first floor laundry, lots of closets. Two full baths. Large level yard. \$39,800 Pontoon Beach E0742 Chris Miller/Judine Lux

3 BR RANCH with many nice wood kitchen cabinets in newly remodeled kitchen. Newly carpeted bedrooms. Utility room off kitchen. Great oversized 1 car attached garage with shelving storage. Newer thermal windows. Niedringhaus school district. E0756 \$54,500 Granite City, Chris Miller/Judine Lux

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